

Agenda Item 8D



STAFF REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

PREPARED BY: Steven Palmer, PE, CSDM, 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 Special District Representative. The District received the attached LAFCO ballot package requesting that the District cast a ballot before 4 pm on Monday, May 4, 2026.

DISCUSSION

The attached ballot package from LAFCO includes information about each of the following nominees:

1. Judy Friedman, Director, Tahoe City Public Utility District
2. Ross Hutchings, Director, Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District
3. Jennifer Knisley, Newcastle, Rocklin, Gold Hill Cemetery District

Current members of the Placer LAFCO Board include:

- A. County Members
 1. Cindy Gustafson, Supervisor, District 5
 2. Shanti Landon, Alternate, Supervisor, District 2
 3. Anthony M. DeMattei, Supervisor, District 3
- B. City/Town Members
 1. Whitney Eklund, Vice Chair, Councilmember, City of Lincoln
 2. Sean Lomen, Mayor, City of Colfax
 3. Stephanie Youngblood, Alternate, Councilmember, Town of Loomis
- C. Special District Members
 1. Joshua Alpine, Chair, Placer County Water Agency
 2. Judy Friedman, Tahoe City Public Utility District, Term Expires May 2026
 3. Scott Wilson, Alternate
- D. Public Members
 1. Susan Rohan
 2. Cherri Spriggs, Alternate

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact

CEQA ASSESSMENT

This is not a CEQA Project

ATTACHMENTS

1. LAFCO Ballot Package

Attachment 1



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

Electronic Transmittal

COMMISSIONERS

March 20, 2026

Joshua Alpine
Chair
(Special District)

Anthony DeMattei
(County)

Whitney Eklund
Vice Chair
(City)

Judy Friedman
(Special District)

Cindy Gustafson
(County)

Sean Lomen
(City)

Susan Rohan
(Public)

ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS

Shanti Landon
(County)

Cherri Spriggs
(Public)

Scott Wilson
(Special District)

Stephanie
Youngblood
(City)

COUNSEL

Michael Walker
General Counsel

STAFF

Colette Santsche
Interim Executive
Officer

Amanda Ross
Acting Assistant
Executive Officer

Amy Engle
Commission
Clerk/Analyst

TO: Independent Special District Presiding Officers
c/o District Clerk

FROM: Colette Santsche, Interim Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Ballot Distribution and Voting Instructions: Special District Appointment to Placer LAFCO

Dear Presiding Officer,

On February 10, 2026, the Placer Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) initiated a call for nominations to fill a vacancy for one of the regular Special District Representatives on the Commission. The presiding officer (Board Chair/President) of each independent special district were invited to submit nominations for qualified special district board members to fill this open seat.

At the close of the nomination period, LAFCO received a total of eleven (11) nominations for three (3) candidates, as summarized below:

Judy Friedman, Director, Tahoe City Public Utility District

Nominated by:

- North Tahoe Fire Protection District
- North Tahoe Public Utility District
- Northstar Community Service District
- Olympic Valley Public Service District
- Penryn Fire Protection District
- Placer Hills Fire Protection District
- Tahoe City Public Utility District
- Truckee Tahoe Airport District
- Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency

Ross Hutchings, Director, Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District

Nominated by:

- Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District

Jennifer Knisley, Director, Newcastle Rocklin Gold Hill Cemetery District

Nominated by:

- Newcastle Rocklin Gold Hill Cemetery District

All three candidates are listed on the attached ballot. Also included in your packet for review are the statements of qualifications received by LAFCO. Please note that submitting a statement was optional and we have included the two that were provided.

Voting Instructions

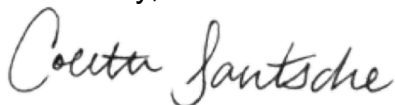
- **Ballot Completion:** Please complete the attached ballot, clearly indicating your selection.
- **Authorized Signature:** To be valid, ballots must be signed by the district's presiding officer, or the presiding officer's alternate as designated by the governing body.
- **Designation of Alternate:** If an alternate has been designated by the governing body, please include a copy of the official meeting minutes or minute order documenting this designation.
- **Quorum Requirement:** A minimum of 19 of the 37 independent special districts in Placer County must submit ballots for the election to be valid.
- **Election Outcome:** The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be appointed as the Special District Representative to LAFCO.

Submission Deadline

Please return your completed ballot via email to lafco@placer.ca.gov no later than Monday, May 4, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

Thank you for your participation and commitment to ensuring that independent special districts remain effectively represented on the Commission. Should you have any questions, please contact our office at (530) 889-4097.

Sincerely,



Colette Santsche

Interim Executive Officer
Placer LAFCO



Ballot: Selection of Special District Representation on LAFCO

Please choose one candidate:

- Judy Friedman**, Tahoe City Public Utility District
- Ross Hutchings**, Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District
- Jennifer Knisley**, Newcastle Rocklin Gold Hill 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 May 4, 2026 by 4pm**

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

I am running for re-election to the Special Districts seat on the LAFCO Board so I can continue representing yours and all the Special Districts in Placer County.

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 from the unique perspective of being an elected member 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 Placer County.

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

Statement of Qualifications Placer County LAFCO

Jenny Knisley
4135 Hunters Drive
Loomis, CA 95650
Phone: 916-719-1132 - Email: Jenny4Loomis@gmail.com

March 17, 2026

Dear LAFCO Commissioners:

I am pleased to submit my application for the position of Special District Representative on the Placer County LAFCO. With my experience serving as the Alternate City LAFCO Commissioner for the Town of Loomis and ongoing professional development through CALAFCO trainings and conferences, I am prepared to contribute effectively as a knowledgeable and engaged member of the Commission.

During my service as the Alternate City LAFCO Commissioner for the Town of Loomis, I maintained consistent attendance at LAFCO meetings and remained fully engaged in the Commission's work to ensure continuity and preparedness when called upon to serve. Through this experience, along with continued professional development at CALAFCO conferences and trainings, I have developed a strong understanding of LAFCO's role, responsibilities, and impact, and I am prepared to contribute effectively as a voting member of the Commission.

My current role as Special District Representative for the Newcastle, Rocklin, and Gold Hill Cemetery District, along with my service on committees such as the South Placer Fire Oversight Committee, has strengthened my experience in governance, fiscal oversight, and regional collaboration. I understand the importance of balanced representation and bring a practical, solutions-oriented approach to board service.

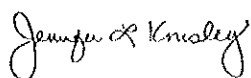
My broader public service background includes serving as Mayor and Council Member for the Town of Loomis, as well as Executive Director of the Loomis Basin Chamber of Commerce. In these roles, I worked closely with a wide range of special districts, local agencies, and community stakeholders—building partnerships, supporting economic development, and advocating for thoughtful growth and service delivery.

I am well-versed in the Commission's strategic priorities, work plan, and budget. My professional career—balancing entrepreneurship, civic leadership, and nearly three decades of service with Soroptimist International—reflects a deep and ongoing commitment to community service and regional well-being.

My qualifications include leadership in developing the Loomis Leadership Program, an Economic Development Certificate (CALED), Institute for Organization Management certification, and completion of Leadership Rocklin and the Western Association of Chamber Executives Academy, along with key contributions to the rebuilding of the Loomis Library and Learning Center.

I am committed to representing all special districts with integrity, diligence, and a clear focus on the long-term interests of Placer County. I bring a strong work ethic, attention to detail, and a collaborative leadership style that prioritizes informed decision-making and regional success.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be honored to continue serving the residents and special districts of Placer County in this capacity.



Sincerely,

Jenny Knisley