



San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
 Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

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AGENDA REPORT
 Business | Action

March 6, 2023

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Keene Simonds, Executive Officer
 Tamaron Luckett, Commission Clerk

SUBJECT: Alternate Public Member Appointment: Options and Possible Action

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will consider options and preferences therein in making a new four-year appointment of an alternate regular public member ahead of the current term expiring on May 1, 2023. Available options range from proceeding with the direct reappointment of the incumbent – Harry Mathis – to soliciting applicants and making an appointment/reappointment at a future meeting. The item has been noticed to allow the Commission to proceed with a reappointment of Commissioner Mathis should it be the membership’s collective preference.

BACKGROUND

Membership Composition

San Diego LAFCO’s membership is prescribed under State law to include 13 appointed Commissioners. The Commissioners are divided between five distinct categories – County of San Diego, cities less City of San Diego, City of San Diego, special districts, and general public – and further distinguished between regular and alternate members. Only the public member category and its regular and alternate appointees are made by LAFCO; the appointments for the other four categories are externally determined under statute.

<p>Administration: Keene Simonds, Executive Officer 2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92103 T 619.321.3380 E lafco@sdcountry.ca.gov www.sdlafco.org</p>	<p>Chair Jim Desmond County of San Diego</p> <p>Joel Anderson County of San Diego</p> <p>Nora Vargas, Alt. County of San Diego</p>	<p>Krista Becker City of Solana Beach</p> <p>Dane White City of Escondido</p> <p>John McCann, Alt. City of Chula Vista</p>	<p>Vice Chair Stephen Whitburn City of San Diego</p> <p>Marni von Wilpert, Alt. City of San Diego</p>	<p>Jo MacKenzie Vista Irrigation</p> <p>Barry Willis Alpine Fire Protection</p> <p>David A. Drake, Alt. Rincon del Diablo</p>	<p>Andy Vanderlaan General Public</p> <p>Harry Mathis, Alt. General Public</p>
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Membership Terms

All terms are four-years and commence on the first Monday in May in the affected year. There are no term limits involving LAFCO appointments in statute or under local policy.

Current Alternate Public Member

San Diego LAFCO's current alternate public member is Harry Mathis. Commissioner Mathis was initially appointed as the alternate public member in 2001 and reappointed to his current four-year term in 2019. (Commissioner Mathis previously served on LAFCO as a regular member representing the City of San Diego between 1995 and 2000.)

DISCUSSION

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to consider options in appointing and/or reappointing an alternate public member ahead of the current term expiring on May 1, 2023. The item is being presented now to provide sufficient time to conduct an open application process should it be the preference of the Commission to proceed accordingly. Alternatively, and if preferred, the item has also been noticed to provide the Commission the option to immediately proceed with a reappointment Commissioner Mathis to a new four-year term effective May 1, 2023. Any appointment of a public member (regular or alternate) requires at least one affirmative vote from all other membership categories under statute.

ANALYSIS

Commissioner Mathis has confirmed his interest with staff to continue to serve on San Diego LAFCO. Commissioner Mathis' extensive experience – including active participation in deliberations and stellar attendance record – provides substantive justification for the Commission to proceed with an immediate reappointment should it be preferred. Any appointment or reappointment requires at least one affirmative vote from all other categories – County, City of San Diego, cities, and special districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended San Diego LAFCO consider its options and related preferences with respect to the alternate public member position ahead of the current term expiring on May 1, 2023. This recommendation includes considerations of two distinct alternatives as outlined in the proceeding section as Alternative One.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

The following alternatives are available to San Diego LAFCO through a single motion:

Alternative One (recommended):

- (a) Reappoint Harry Mathis as the alternate public member to a new four-year term commencing on May 1, 2023; or
- (b) Provide direction to staff to initiate an open application process for the alternate public member position with added prescription regarding the level and type of recruitment as well as the interview and appointment processes.

Alternative Two:

Continue the item to the next regular meeting and provide direction to staff for additional information as needed.

PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on the agenda for action as part of San Diego LAFCO's business calendar. The following procedures, accordingly, are recommended in the consideration of this item:

- 1) Receive verbal report from staff unless waived.
- 2) Invite comments from interested audience members (voluntarily).
- 3) Consider recommendation.

On behalf of the Executive Officer

Tamaron Lockett
Commission Clerk

Attachments: none

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