

### District Board Members

Blane Maynor  
Division 1  
Nicole Johnson - President  
Division 2  
Randy Mendosa - Vice President  
Division 3  
Vacant  
Division 4  
David Rosen  
Division 5



### District Staff

Justin McDonald  
Fire Chief  
Becky Schuette  
Clerk of the Board

# Special Board Meeting

## November 15, 2021

### 5:30 PM

### Location: Remote Via Zoom

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Special Notice On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361, which modified the Brown Act to allow for teleconferencing participation at local legislative body public meetings during a proclaimed state of emergency. As urgency legislation, this law took effect immediately. Pursuant to Government Code §54953(e)(1)(B), the Arcata Fire Protection District will conduct its October 12, 2021 meeting by Zoom. Therefore, Directors, staff and members of the public will attend this meeting via teleconference, as provided below.

You may join from a smart device or computer by copy and pasting this link into your web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/551748203>  
Meeting ID: 551 748 203

## AGENDA

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### CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Suspended for virtual meetings

### ATTENDANCE & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

### PUBLIC COMMENT/ASSOCIATION REPORTS

*Any person may address the District Board on any subject pertaining to District business, which is not listed on the agenda. This comment is provided by the Ralph M. Brown Open Meeting Act (Government Code § 54950 et seq.) and may be limited to three (3) minutes for any person addressing the Board. Any request that requires Board action may be set by the Board for a future agenda or referred to staff.*

## DISTRICT BUSINESS

1. Interview and Consider Appointment of Applicant for Director to Division 4 Pg. 3
  - a. Attachment 1 - Application from Eric Loudenslager Pg. 5

## ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2021, at 5:30 pm.

Prepared by: *Becky Schuette, Clerk of the Board*

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*The Arcata Fire Protection District ("District"), in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), individuals who require special accommodations to access, attend and/or participate in District board meetings due to a disability, shall make their request by calling (707)825-2000, no later than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time. In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority of, or all, the Board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at 2149 Central Avenue, McKinleyville, California or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the Board Secretary, at (707) 825-2000.*

*The meeting agenda is posted at least 72 hours in advance of regular scheduled meetings, at the following locations:*

- *District's Headquarters' Building, 2149 Central Avenue, McKinleyville, CA 95519*
- *Arcata Downtown Station, 631 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Arcata, CA 95521*
- *Mad River Station, 3235 Janes Road, Arcata, CA 95521*
- *The Arcata Fire Protection District website: [www.arcatafire.org](http://www.arcatafire.org)*

**Date:** November 12, 2021  
**To:** Board of Directors, Arcata Fire District  
**From:** Justin McDonald, Fire Chief  
**Subject:** Interview and Consider Appointment of Applicant for Director to Division 4

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**DISCUSSION**

On September 20, 2021, the District received a letter of resignation from the Board from Director Elena David, citing her current health situation. At the October 12, 2021, Regular Meeting, the Board directed staff to initiate the process to accept applications to appoint a successor to serve out the remainder of Director David's term.

Following the meeting, staff published several advertisements and public notices, sent out numerous letters to potential candidates and posted to social media regarding the vacancy. Two applications were received; however, one was received after the published deadline, therefore, has been disqualified. Confirmation has been made with the election's office of residency and voter registration status.

If the Board chooses to appoint tonight, the appointment becomes effective following the completion of today's meeting. At that time, the applicant/appointee assumes all responsibilities, however, will need to be sworn in at the next regular meeting.

If the Board declines to appoint a successor or call for an election by November 19, 2021, then the County Board of Supervisors will appoint a person to fill the vacancy "within 90 days of the date the District Board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later, or the board of supervisors may order the district to call an election to fill the vacancy." (Government Code §1780(f)(1))

Finally, if both the District Board and the Board of Supervisors decline to act within the above-referenced time frames, then the district board is required to call an election on the next established election date to fill the vacancy. (Government Code §1780(g)(1)).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff is recommending that each board member choose two or three questions from the list and the procedure for interviews will be as follows:

- (a) Standardized questions from the list for Candidate(s) from the Board
- (b) Questions for Candidate(s) from the public
- (c) Individual follow up questions for Candidate(s) from the Board
- (d) Candidate(s) closing comments
- (e) Public Input
- (f) Board discussion
- (g) Consider Motion for appointment to fill the vacancy for Division 4

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

- No Fiscal Impact/Not Applicable
- Included in Budget:
- Additional Appropriation Requested:

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board discretion

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1 – Application from Eric Loudenslager

RECEIVED

OCT 27 2021

Arcata Fire District



**Candidate Information Sheet**  
**Arcata Fire District Board of Directors**

Name: Eric    Jon    Loudenslager  
(First)    (Middle)    (Last)

Address: 1115 15th Street, Arcata, CA 95521

Phone Number: (707) 822-6225    (707) 845-0737  
(Home)    (Cell)

E-mail: loudensl@sonic.net

Employer: Retired from HSU (1983 - 2012, Department of Fisheries Biology)

Number of years you have lived in the Fire District: 38

1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a governmental organization?  
Please list such prior experience.  
See attached page for response to this question

2. Please describe any community organizations and/or activities in which you have participated. Describe your role and responsibilities.  
*Arcata Volunteer Trail Stewards. For the past 9 years or so I have been a volunteer strail steward, working on trail maintenance and improvement in the Arcata Forest, Marsh, and Bay Trail.*

3. Why do you want to serve as a Director of the AFD Board?  
See attached page for response to this question.

## AFD Board Candidate Information Sheet

Question 1. Do you have prior experience serving on a governing board, specifically a governmental organization? Please list such prior experience.

No. I have however been appointed and served on scientific advisory boards and panels for government agencies. I am a PhD geneticist specializing in trout and salmon population genetics and culture. For California Department of Fish and Wildlife I served on panels reviewing the hatcheries in the Klamath and Trinity Rivers and developing guidelines for a Tuolumne River salmon hatchery. For CalFed I reviewed steelhead supplementation in Battle Creek and a monitoring and evaluation plan for Coleman National Fish Hatchery.

For six years I served on the Independent Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) providing guidance to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC), NOAA-Fisheries, and the Columbia Intertribal Fish Commission on the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife program (FWP), funded by Bonneville Power Authority and implemented by the NPCC. For five years I was the ISAB chair, steering the work of eleven scientists from across the United States and Canada. For six years I served on the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) for the NPCC. The panel provides technical review of FWP projects for the NPCC. Direct FWP projects have a budget of approximately 250 million dollars annually.

The ISAB and ISRP were established by Congress. Both board and panel operated with consensus. Our reporting to the regional governments presented the elements of an issue or project that all members agreed on. As chair I regularly reported to the NPCC at their monthly meeting. The reports I helped produce are available at the NPCC website.

Question 3. Why do you want to serve as a Director of the AFD Board?

A neighbor brought the opening to my attention, suggested I would be a good choice, and urged me to offer my services.

I have no specific knowledge of fire departments and would not bring an existing agenda to service on the AFD Board.

I have lived in Arcata since 1983. Most of this time I was busy enough with my duties at HSU and my service to the conservation of our region salmon and steelhead resources that I did not pursue volunteer service in our local community.

Now that I am retired from both HSU and my service to the ISAB and ISRP I would be able to commit to serving in our local community. Serving on the AFD Board would provide an opportunity to give back to the community where I have lived for nearly 4 decades.

4. What specific expertise would you bring to the Board of Directors?

No technical expertise, but several years of serving and leading collegial advisory teams. I am confident that I am able to learn the operations of the Fire District and could make responsible decisions on behalf of the citizens of Division 4.

5. What do you see as a strength of the Fire District?

I don't have sufficient knowledge of the AFD to compare it to other local or regional fire or other special districts to make a cogent statement of strengths.

6. Please explain any weaknesses or areas of improvement that may be needed for the Fire District.

As stated above, I don't have sufficient knowledge or understanding of the Fire District to make any suggestions for improvement of technical matters. I suspect that District efforts at transparency and public relations could be improved, given community resistance to recent ballot initiatives for special taxes for the Fire District.

I hereby certify I am a resident, and qualified voter, of Division 4 of the Arcata Fire District and wish to be considered for appointment to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors. The term of the vacant seat expires in November 2022. The appointed candidate may seek re-election at that time.

I hereby certify that the information I have presented in the submitted packet is complete, accurate, and true to the best of my knowledge, and hereby authorize the Arcata Fire District to verify this information as may be required. I understand that all application materials I have submitted are subject to the laws governing public records.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Em J Lombard-Lager*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

10/26/2021

Please attach any additional information you feel will assist the Board in reaching its appointment.

APPLICATION FILING DATE: **NOVEMBER 5, 2021 AT 4:00 P.M.**

APPLICATION PACKET MAY BE EMAILED OR MAILED—POSTMARKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED