

Chair:

Kevin Goss

Commissioners:

Tom McGowan

Bill Powers

Jim Murphy

Matthew Haesche

Pat Morton, Alt.

Jeff Engel, Alt.

Phil Oels, Alt

Executive Officer:

Jennifer Stephenson

Clerk:

Cheryl Kolb

Plumas LAFCo

The Local Agency Formation Commission Serving Plumas County

January 15, 2024

Grizzly Ranch Community Services District
4456 Grizzly Road
Portola, CA 96122

Subject: Membership on the Local Agency Formation Commission

Dear Board Members:

This letter is to ask for your support in becoming a member of the Local Agency Formation Commission of Plumas County (LAFCo). LAFCo's main duty is to establish boundaries for all cities and special districts within the County. Presently, since LAFCo of Plumas County does not have special district representation, your district does not have a voice equal to the County and the City in LAFCo affairs, including the formation of new districts, the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of existing districts, annexations and changes of organization and the establishment, amendment, and updates to spheres of influence boundaries. Since the passage of AB 2838, the role of special districts has increased with the mandate to conduct service reviews as necessary every 5 years. The ability to have a direct voice in all LAFCo affairs is now more compelling given LAFCo's expanded mandates and independence.

Even before the revisions included in AB 2838 became effective, several LAFCos had previously seated special districts based on the other factors involving a direct voice of special districts. Ask yourself, why wouldn't your district want to be represented on a commission that has oversight over your very existence and growth? For example, under the law, LAFCo has the power to initiate dissolutions; therefore, providing a good reason for special district representation on LAFCo. LAFCo could therefore make a decision that would affect a particular district without the perspective and concern that only special districts seated on the Commission could provide.

Many LAFCos have seated special districts. The California Special Districts Association has been active in promoting the seating of Special Districts on LAFCo such as in Santa Cruz. Other rural LAFCos such as Nevada, El Dorado and Mendocino have seated special districts since special districts in these counties collectively expressed a desire to be involved.

One of the major barriers to special district representation is the cost. The law has a formula requiring special districts to pay a third or 33% of LAFCo's operating costs unless another formula is otherwise agreed to by the Cities and the County. Each district's annual allocation is based on the district's operating revenues as a ratio to

the operating revenues of all independent special districts in the County. The attached spreadsheet shows estimated calculations for FY 20-21 of what your district could be expected to pay in annual dues should a majority of districts choose to join LAFCo. *(The FY 20-21 revenues shown are based on information for all independent districts that was readily available from the State Controller's Office. The spreadsheet does not determine the exact amount that would be due in any given year and is only designed as an estimate of what each district could generally expect to contribute to LAFCo each year.)*

At LAFCo's meeting on December 11, 2023, the Commission voted to invite special districts to join LAFCo. The districts are invited through this letter to vote as to whether they would like to join LAFCo. In order to approve joining LAFCo, a majority of the district boards must vote on and approve the attached resolution. Should your Board approve becoming part of LAFCo, please return the approved resolution no later than April 1, 2024.

If a majority of districts approve joining LAFCo, then the next step will be an election of district representation where the districts can nominate candidates and each district can vote on the two regular district representatives and one alternate representative that would be seated on LAFCo for a term of 4 years. Plumas LAFCo aims to seat the special districts on the Commission on July 1, 2024.

If you would like a word version of the resolution, please reach out to Jennifer Stephenson, LAFCo Executive Officer at jennifer@pcateam.com. Or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call at (310) 936-2639.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Stephenson

Jennifer Stephenson
Executive Officer
Local Agency Formation Commission of Plumas County

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
_____ DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION 2023 - _____

*A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the
_____ District (District) requesting independent
special district membership on the Local Agency Formation
Commission of Plumas County.*

Resolved by the Board of Directors of the District:

WHEREAS, the District believes it is important that independent special districts have a voice in LAFCo affairs; and

WHEREAS, the District believes that it is important for LAFCo to have the perspective from the independent special districts that in its deliberations; and

WHEREAS, the District understands that 33 percent of the LAFCo operating costs will be borne by the independent special districts.

WHEREAS, the District understands that each district's contribution to LAFCo's operating budget will be based on the district's operating revenues as a ratio of total operating revenues for all independent special districts in Plumas County.

WHEREAS, for these reasons, the District supports the representation of independent special districts on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Plumas County as provided for in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act of 2000; and

Now, therefore the district resolves as follows:

1. District requests independent special districts representatives be seated on LAFCo of Plumas County.
2. District supports the election of independent special district representatives (two members and one alternate) to LAFCo through a nomination and election process as provided by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act of 2000.

This Resolution is hereby adopted and approved by the Board of Directors of the _____ District and the Local Agency Formation Commission of Plumas County is hereby requested to seat independent special districts according to the terms and conditions stated above and in the manner provided by the Cortese-Knox Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors as a Resolution of the _____ District at a regular Board Meeting held on the ____ day of _____, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

District Chair

DATED: _____