
General Information

All County Board and Commission members must be residents of Los Alamos County.

Once a resident fills out and submits this application, an interview is scheduled with the B&C's County Council liaison, the relevant staff liaison, and the B&C Chair. After the interviews, the applicants' names are presented to the full Council during a regularly scheduled Council meeting, where a vote is taken regarding the appointment of each applicant. Each applicant will be notified if they are appointed or not.

Only on-line applications will be considered.

If you are interested in applying for the Board of Public Utilities, please contact Jamie Kephart at 505-662-8132.

If you are interested in applying for Labor Relations Board, please contact Denise Cassel at 505-662-8047.

Profile

Board and Commission Application

Note: Please be aware that as a public entity, the County of Los Alamos, is obligated to furnish this information to the public if requested. Note also that current LANL employees, if appointed to a Board or Commission, may be required by LANL to complete a 701 form.

Denise

First Name

Derkacs

Last Name

Middle Initial

Street Address

Suite or Apt

State

City

Postal Code

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Party affiliation as registered: (Select one of the following) *

☒ Democrat

Registered to vote in Los Alamos?

☒ Yes ☐ No

**County Website & Local
Newspapers**

How did you learn of this Board/Commission vacancy?

Do you currently serve on any County Board or Commission?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, which one? (Los Alamos County law prohibits residents from serving concurrently on more than one County board except as expressly approved in writing by the County Council before the appointment is made.)

Interests & Experiences

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Community Development Advisory: Submitted

Why would you like to serve on this particular Board or Commission?

I would like to assist in the development, implementation, and enforcement of reasonable property maintenance codes to strengthen pride of property ownership and build community spirit in Los Alamos County.

What volunteer or professional activities have you participated in that could apply to this appointment?

I worked for 10 of my 22 years at Los Alamos National Laboratory as Chief of Staff to senior management, participating in both programmatic and operational activities. I also served on a Lab-wide policy review committee, working with organizations responsible for developing institutional policies to resolve comments and concerns from organizations affected by those policies. This experience will be directly applicable to the tasks of this advisory board.

The time involved may be 10-15 hours per month or more. Are you able to serve the volunteer hours and attend training needed to perform your duties as an appointee?

Yes. I am retired and have time available to serve.

**What would you like to accomplish during your tenure on this Board or Commission?
(Please identify any special interests you have that led you to become interested in serving on this Board or Commission.)**

I would like to help assuage the tensions among the County Council, County Government, and the public through the development, implementation, and enforcement of fair and reasonable property maintenance codes to enhance property values and strengthen community pride in Los Alamos County. I would also like to explore the use of community awareness events and volunteer resources for those in need of assistance in maintaining their properties.

Have you had any direct or indirect involvement with this Board or Commission or with the County staff supporting this Board or Commission or County Councilors? If so, please explain.

No. I have followed issues related to the property maintenance codes through local newspapers and County Council meeting recordings.

Are there any issue or matters, financial or otherwise, that you are now or might become involved in that may come before the Board or Commission for which you seek appointment?

No. I am a single-family property owner in Los Alamos County.

If you have any questions, please contact Libby Carlsten at 505-662-8261 or libby.carlsten@lacnm.us



County Manager's Office
BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Denise Derkacs

Applicant's Name

CDAB

Board or Commission

David I.

Interviewer Name

7/10/18 2:30 pm

Date/Time of Interview

Interview Conducted:

☒ Personally

☐ Telephone

NOTE TO INTERVIEW PANEL: Please remember to use this interview as an opportunity to share Council's directives and guidance for B&C's.

#	Question/Documented Response
1	Describe your experience, education, and training that qualify you for this Board or Commission. B.S. Rutgers - Journalism. M.S. UNM org. communication. Worked at LANL 17 years tech writing / coord of staff & Proj. Mgr. LANS proposal. Exp w/ all levels of people & mgmt. Policy doc review - reconcile between users & creators of policy.
2	What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the Board/commission you applied for? [Note to interview panel: If the answer to appears to be off base with Council's position, please explore a little more.] Tension in comm (some members) & council to find path forward, ordinance reasonable, but get better implementation - guidelines
3	How do you perceive the role of County Boards and Commissions in local government? Advisory board to provide CC guidance on implementation & refinement. Can do some programmatic activities, get more people to have buy in. Get volunteer resources. Recruit scouts, etc.
4	What skills do you possess that you feel are important for effective Board or Commission members? Working with all kinds of people & peers & supervisor.
5	What could you do, specifically, to foster a collaborative relationship between staff and the Board or Commission on which you would like to serve? Open comm. critical, find out what key issues are & working with other board members. Will need to establish ground rules for discussion.

6	Have you served on any Boards, Commissions or Committees (not only County B&Cs – but also church groups, non-profit boards, school committees, etc.) within the last five years? What do you think was your greatest contribution during your tenure? <i>Not since retirement.</i>
7 7A	Are you familiar with the County Charter and County Code as they apply to the Board you are applying for? Describe your knowledge or understanding of the County's property maintenance code. <i>Have read ordinances several times. Following newspaper, & council minutes & videos. Participated in some surveys.</i>
8	What are the elements of a good neighborhood? <i>Friendliness, civility among neighbors. Maintaining properties. Have seen deterioration. Hope to help make changes w/o offending people</i>
9	Are you willing to take the time to attend training sessions to become more knowledgeable about your duties and responsibilities in an advisory capacity? <i>Yes.</i>
10	Are you aware that, as a member of a Los Alamos County Board or Commission, your written communications, including e-mails, are public records (even if produced on your personal computer), and as such are subject to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act. If any of these public records are requested for review/inspection under the Act you may need to produce them. Is this a deterrent to your willingness to serve on this Board? <i>OK.</i>
11	Currently, a few boards or commissions are "live streaming" their meetings (for example, the T-Board, Parks and Recreation Board, and the Planning and Zoning Commission.) In the future, this may be required of all boards. If you're applying for one of the boards currently streaming or if it becomes a requirement for all B&Cs to stream, is this - or will this - be a deterrent to your willingness to serve? <i>OK.</i>
12	[Interview panel: Ask questions you think necessary for clarification of the written answers this applicant provided as part of their application.] <i>Have served as chair of a LAMC committee. Team leader, supervisor.</i>
13	Do you have any questions for the interview panel?

Notes:



County Manager's Office
BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Denise Derkacs
Applicant's Name

CDAB
Board or Commission

Antonio Maggiore
Interviewer Name

7/10/2018
Date/Time of Interview

Interview Conducted:
X Personally
____ Telephone

NOTE TO INTERVIEW PANEL: Please remember to use this interview as an opportunity to share Council's directives and guidance for B&C's.

#	Question/Documented Response
1	Describe your experience, education, and training that qualify you for this Board or Commission. BA Rutgers, Masters UNM in Organizational Communication. LANL Retiree, Chief of staff, tech writer Program Manager Served on LANL committee reviewing policy documents helped reconcile differences.
2	What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the Board/commission you applied for? [Note to interview panel: If the answer to appears to be off base with Council's position, please explore a little more.] Tension in the community, needing to find a reasonable implementation plan.
3	How do you perceive the role of County Boards and Commissions in local government? Advisory to Council, Volunteer driven efforts
4	What skills do you possess that you feel are important for effective Board or Commission members? has broad experience working with groups, committees
5	What could you do, specifically, to foster a collaborative relationship between staff and the Board or Commission on which you would like to serve? open communication clarifying issues and working w/ other members towards solution.

6	Have you served on any Boards, Commissions or Committees (not only County B&Cs – but also church groups, non-profit boards, school committees, etc.) within the last five years? What do you think was your greatest contribution during your tenure? <i>Not in last 5 years (has been enjoying retirement but before that yes</i>
7 7A	Are you familiar with the County Charter and County Code as they apply to the Board you are applying for? Describe your knowledge or understanding of the County's property maintenance code. <i>yes has read it and been following the issue from a distance</i>
8	What are the elements of a good neighborhood? <i>civility, friendliness among neighbors maintaining yards</i>
9	Are you willing to take the time to attend training sessions to become more knowledgeable about your duties and responsibilities in an advisory capacity? <i>yes.</i>
10	Are you aware that, as a member of a Los Alamos County Board or Commission, your written communications, including e-mails, are public records (even if produced on your personal computer), and as such are subject to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act. If any of these public records are requested for review/inspection under the Act you may need to produce them. Is this a deterrent to your willingness to serve on this Board? <i>NO</i>
11	Currently, a few boards or commissions are "live streaming" their meetings (for example, the T-Board, Parks and Recreation Board, and the Planning and Zoning Commission.) In the future, this may be required of all boards. If you're applying for one of the boards currently streaming or if it becomes a requirement for all B&Cs to stream, is this - or will this - be a deterrent to your willingness to serve? <i>NO</i>
12	[Interview panel: Ask questions you think necessary for clarification of the written answers this applicant provided as part of their application.] <i>has some experience chairing meetings</i>
13	Do you have any questions for the interview panel?

Notes:



County Manager's Office
BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Denise Derkacs
Applicant's Name

CDAB
Board or Commission

PAUL
Interviewer Name

Date/Time of Interview

Interview Conducted:
____ Personally
____ Telephone

NOTE TO INTERVIEW PANEL: Please remember to use this interview as an opportunity to share Council's directives and guidance for B&C's.

#	Question/Documented Response
1	Describe your experience, education, and training that qualify you for this Board or Commission. Journalism; org communications; LANL - 17 years; technical writer Program manager; experience interacting w/ people; reviewed policy document
2	What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the Board/commission you applied for? [Note to interview panel: If the answer to appears to be off base with Council's position, please explore a little more.] Tension between certain members of council - meeting of the minds Develop reasonable guidelines for council - Ordinance is needed
3	How do you perceive the role of County Boards and Commissions in local government? This board is advisory; county can promote/engage to get more people to buy in. Volunteer resources to assist those who need help
4	What skills do you possess that you feel are important for effective Board or Commission members? Worked with review boards; peers and supervisors
5	What could you do, specifically, to foster a collaborative relationship between staff and the Board or Commission on which you would like to serve? Open communication

6	Have you served on any Boards, Commissions or Committees (not only County B&Cs – but also church groups, non-profit boards, school committees, etc.) within the last five years? What do you think was your greatest contribution during your tenure? No; committees @ lab
7 7A	Are you familiar with the County Charter and County Code as they apply to the Board you are applying for? Describe your knowledge or understanding of the County's property maintenance code. Yes, read it several times; following Council on line observing from a distance
8	What are the elements of a good neighborhood? Civility; friendliness; maintaining properties
9	Are you willing to take the time to attend training sessions to become more knowledgeable about your duties and responsibilities in an advisory capacity? Yes
10	Are you aware that, as a member of a Los Alamos County Board or Commission, your written communications, including e-mails, are public records (even if produced on your personal computer), and as such are subject to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act. If any of these public records are requested for review/inspection under the Act you may need to produce them. Is this a deterrent to your willingness to serve on this Board? No
11	Currently, a few boards or commissions are "live streaming" their meetings (for example, the T-Board, Parks and Recreation Board, and the Planning and Zoning Commission.) In the future, this may be required of all boards. If you're applying for one of the boards currently streaming or if it becomes a requirement for all B&Cs to stream, is this - or will this - be a deterrent to your willingness to serve? No
12	[Interview panel: Ask questions you think necessary for clarification of the written answers this applicant provided as part of their application.]
13	Do you have any questions for the interview panel?

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