
General Information

All County Board and Commission members must be residents of Los Alamos County. Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board members, except the at-large community member, do not need to be residents if they are employed/represent an attraction or hotel.

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 Labor Relations Board, please contact Mary Tapia at 505-662-8040.

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.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Environmental Sustainability: Submitted

Laural

First Name

Hardin

Last Name

Middle
Initial

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Registered to vote in Los Alamos?

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☒ Democrat

How long have you lived in Los Alamos County?

15 yrs

How did you learn of this Board/Commission vacancy?

Councilor Ryn Herrmann

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.)

Community Service

List boards, commissions, committees, and organizations on which you are currently serving or have served. Include any offices held.

I have not served on any LAC boards. I have, and do participate in several other volunteer positions. Currently the SF Botanical Gardens and the grounds committee at the LA Unitarian Universalist church.

Employment and Education

List your current and past employment experience.

2018- current owner of Petree Garden Center. 2008- 2017 Petree Excavation

List your current and past education including any professional or vocational licenses or certificates.

Currently working on a BA of Liberal Arts with a Business specialty. 2026 applicant for the American Society for Horticultural Science Practicing Professional Horticulturalist (APH) designation. A professional recognition for individuals with a minimum of 5 years experience and distinction in the field of horticulture. Certified ISA Arborist 2011 Certified greenhouse grower 2012 Master Gardener 2012 Integrated Pest Management Specialist 2012

Interests & Experiences

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

I see serving on this particular board as an excellent opportunity to develop both my personal objectives (offering sustainable landscape education at Petree) and to share what relevant professional knowledge and perspective I may have.

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.)

Sustainable landscape design and practices are becoming increasingly necessary as our climate becomes more arid. Our ecosystem is particularly fragile and susceptible to degradation and must be actively protected. It is my personal goal to further public awareness and policies that help our community prepare for a changing environment. LAC is uniquely positioned to adopt and model sustainable practices and design. Serving on the Environmental Sustainability Board aligns with my objectives of personal and community development.

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.

Yes, I have been contacted by board members in the past for information related to pesticide use during the process to attain the Pollinator Bee City designation. I recently asked Councilor Herrmann for information on applying for LAC boards, which she provided.

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

In addition to the current volunteering I do directly related to sustainability, I have worked with PEEC over the years in several capacities including public education related to sustainable tree planting as well as participated in consulting for exhibits related to tree species and health in LAC. (I don't remember the exact years.) I have extensive knowledge in arboriculture, pesticides, plant species and sustainable urban landscape design.

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

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

General

Have you ever worked for Los Alamos County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list dates and department.

Are you related to any employee of Los Alamos County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please indicate name and relationship.

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest in connection to your occupation or financial holdings in relation to your responsibilities as a member of the advisory body to which you seek appointment?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please indicate any potential conflicts.

Are you aware of the time commitment necessary to fulfill the obligations of the Board or Commission to which you seek appointment?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Can you commit to approximately 10-15 hours per month to this Board or Commission to prepare for and attend monthly meetings and training as needed?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are you willing to participate in Board and Commission meetings that are recorded and may be live-streamed?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are you willing to have your name listed on the County Boards and Commissions public webpage?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you have any questions, please contact Adrienne Lovato at 505-662-8293



County Manager's Office
BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Laural Hardin
Applicant's Name

ESB
Board or Commission

Angelica Gurule
Interviewer Name

January 26, 2026
Date/Time of Interview

Interview Conducted:
 Personally
 Telephone
 X Remote/
Zoom

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	Please tell us a little about yourself, especially your experience and background related to this board/commission. Owner of Petree Garden Center. She is in the business of helping people choose, install sustainable landscaping. The climate in Los Alamos is changing, we are feeling it in our arid environment. She is focused on helping residents choose tree species that will survive here in LA in the future. She is an arborist, background integrated pest management, works with PEEC fairly extensively over the year. She has volunteered over the year. As a small business everything they do is related to sustainability.
2	Why would you like to serve on this board/commission? Personally, she feels like she has a civic duty to participate. She wants to leave a good legacy. Beyond that she is interested in composting in our County, she has experience and can contribute. She is concerned about the deer situation in the County.
3	What do you believe are the major issues facing this board/commission? Deer, composting, bags. Deer are an issue for the long run, we have disrupted the natural balance in our community of predator/prey situation. This causes more ticks, etc. Solid waste is an issue - recycling can be improved.
4	<i>Insert a board/commission specific question here.</i> Do you have the time and are you willing and able to attend the monthly meeting? Yes. She has conflicts in April and May, but is flexibly and wants to participate.
5	What do you feel you could contribute to this board/commission? Very pragmatic person, how do we get things done in an efficient and pragmatic way. Good for keeping the meeting on task, she likes to move things along and keeps things going. She will bring the perspective as a small business owner that can be useful.

6	What other community and/or civic activities have you been involved in? PEEC, Chamber of Commerce, Women in Small Business Panel, has been on the Seed Library panel, serves on committees with the Unitarian Church, volunteer for Santa Fe Botanics Gardens, she gives presentations on horticulture.
7	Do you have any questions about the expectations included in the application? No, the application was pretty clear. The website is really great. Serving on the ESB is a long term goal for her to contribute to the community.
8	Do you have any other questions for the interview panel? What do you get out of serving on a board? David said, serving on a board you can see how things get done in local government and how it works. For ex. Planning and Zoning they are going to start working on sustainable construction. Serving on many boards you can see how the work overlaps. AG mentioned many great initiatives have begun with ESB support and recommendations.

Notes:



County Manager's Office
BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

New

Applicant's Name: Laural Hardin

Board or Commission: Environmental Sustainability Board

Interviewer Name: David Hampton

Date/Time of Interview: 1/26 3pm Zoom

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	Please tell us a little about yourself, especially your experience and background related to this board/commission. Owner of Petree, in LA since 2011, in the business of sustainable landscaping, wants to help people bridge the sustainability gap, arborist, integrated pest management, works with PEEC teaching classes.
2	Why would you like to serve on this board/commission? Business owners have a civic responsibility, relevant perspective as a small business, interested in composting, concerned about deer situation.
3	What do you believe are the major issues facing this board/commission? Read through the work plan, the deer population is a sustainability issue, solid waste situation,
4	<i>Insert a board/commission specific question here.</i> Do you have the time to attend monthly meetings? Meetings yes, can attend events not in April/May.
5	What do you feel you could contribute to this board/commission? Pragmatic, concerned with efficiency, small business perspective, non-lab perspective, can move meetings along.

6	What other community and/or civic activities have you been involved in? PEEC, Chamber (Women in Small Business), seed library, Unitarian Church, SF Botanic Gardens,
7	Do you have any questions about the expectations included in the application? No
8	Do you have any other questions for the interview panel? What do we get out of this board?

Notes:



County Manager's Office
BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Laural Hardin
Applicant's Name

ESB
Board or Commission

Melanee Hand
Interviewer Name

1/26/26
Date/Time of Interview

Interviewer Contact
 Personally
 Telephone
 X Remote/Zoom

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	Please tell us a little about yourself, especially your experience and background related to this board/commission. Owner of Petree Garden Center, lived in Los Alamos since 2011. Does many things related to sustainability : sustainable Landscaping, particularly. Helps people to bridge the gap for water conservation and planting for conservation in the future. She is a tree arborist, background in pest management for greenhouse and open environments. Taught PEEC classes and PEEC summer programs.
2	Why would you like to serve on this board/commission? Business owners have an obligation to serve the community. She has a responsibility to support community and can offer Her knowledge for the communities benefit. Interested in composting in the County – experience thru Petree Taos in composting. Concerned about the deer situation in LAC.
3	What do you believe are the major issues facing this board/commission? Read the work plan. Believes deer is a sustainability issue long term, and public health. Solid waste and recycling – need to Communicate to the citizens.
4	<i>Insert a board/commission specific question here. Do you have the time and are you able to attend the monthly meetings?</i> Main conflicts for Laural are in April and May. Angelica: flexibility for attending meetings and events. Up to a 2 hour meeting Per month. Would like to have in-person attendance if possible for camaraderie. Laural can probably attend most meetings. Might not be available for events in April and May.
5	What do you feel you could contribute to this board/commission? In addition to things already mentioned, looking for ways to get things done in an efficient and pragmatic way. Likes to move Things along. Offers perspective as a small business owner, and non-LANL that might be alternative thinking.

6	What other community and/or civic activities have you been involved in? Spoke for Chamber and Library program, volunteer for church programs and maintenance, and offer knowledge in her area of Expertise.
7	Do you have any questions about the expectations included in the application? Website is really great! LAC doing a good job marketing. ESB is a long term goal if she isn't chosen this time.
8	Do you have any other questions for the interview panel? What do we get out of the ESB? David Hampton: able to see how things work and how things get done in the County. Sustainable Guidelines are being developed that involve 2 boards, so he sees a greater visibility of how to solve larger problems. Angelica: ESB Is making great progress on issues such as Glysophate use, bear use, yard trimming bins, recycle coach app, Climate Action Plan.

Notes: Laural has a good background to be a great contributor on the Board.