

**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

Susan

First Name

Barns

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?**

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28 yr

**How did you learn of this Board/Commission vacancy?**

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email

**Do you currently serve on any County Board or Commission?**

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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.)**

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**Community Service**

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

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-- ESB member; Liaison to BPU, Chair of Save As You Throw research subcommittee (8/1/2016 -7/31/2020) -- Founding member of Zero Waste Los Alamos (ZWLA)/Los Alamos Sustainability Alliance (LASA) (2018-present) -- Member of Los Alamos Resiliency, Energy and Sustainability (LARES) Task Force; Chair of Waste, Consumption and Natural Resources Subcommittee (2021-2022) -- Member of GHG/CAP consultant RFP and selection working group (2022) -- PEEC volunteer (2015-present)

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**Employment and Education**

**List your current and past employment experience.**

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-- Associate Research Scientist; Probe Development Group, GENETRAK Systems, Framingham, MA (1987-1990) -- Postdoctoral Researcher; J. Robert Oppenheimer Postdoctoral Fellow, Environmental Molecular Biology, Life Sciences Division, LANL (1996-1999) -- Research Assistant Professor of Biology; University of New Mexico, Albuquerque (1997 - 2008) -- Biochemistry Technician Specialist (TEC-7), Biosciences Division, LANL (1999 - 2008) -- Service Dog Trainer/Instructor, Grantwriter; Assistance Dogs of the West, Santa Fe, NM. (2008-2016) -- Retired Volunteer (2016 - present)

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

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-- B.F.A. in Art History (Magna cum Laude; Minor in Latin), New York University, NYC (1983) -- B.S. in Microbiology (With High Distinction and Biology Departmental Honors), Indiana University, Bloomington (1987) -- Ph.D. in Microbiology (Minor in Biochemistry), Phylogenetic analysis of naturally occurring high temperature microbial populations, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN (1995) -- Postdoctoral Research, J. Robert Oppenheimer Postdoctoral Fellow, Environmental Molecular Biology, Life Sciences Division, LANL (1996-1999)

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**Interests & Experiences**

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

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From my extensive involvement with local sustainability issues over the past 8 years, I have learned that most Los Alamos residents share my passion for our community and our environment and are interested in ways to protect them. I have also learned, through research and experience, that many sustainability practices can not only preserve our shared environment, but also enhance our personal lives in many ways. Now more than ever, I think there are opportunities for win-win actions that can accomplish so much, and I believe our community will embrace many of them, as they have in the past. I want to help bring together ideas, information, and input, and community, staff and Council involvement to identify those actions that benefit people and planet and find ways to make them become reality.

## **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.)**

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In addition to the general interest mentioned above, the current objectives of Council and ESB align well with what I would like to accomplish on the Board. Council's Environmental Stewardship goals call for "active participation in conservation efforts and sustainable practices", which is an important priority which I am delighted to support with my work. The ESB's current Work Plan contains a number of areas of interest for me, due to past involvement in ESB, ZWLA/LASA and LARES, which I would like to continue working on. These include: support of DPU/BPU efforts in conservation and clean energy; implementation of municipal food waste composting; food waste prevention; and waste management/reduction and recycling. Having served on the LARES Task Force (and the RFP committee to select a GHG/CAP consultant), I am particularly interested in finalizing and implementing our Climate Action Plan, as well as the Council LARES Working Group's Recommended Actions (especially WCNR-2 - Reduce consumption-associated GHG emissions through sustainable purchasing and consumption/disposal of food, goods, and services.) And finally, I \*really\* enjoy working with ESB members and County staff and participating in education and outreach to our community, and am eager to continue and expand my efforts there. It's so important...and fun!

## **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.**

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Through previous/ongoing activities as a member of the ESB, ZWLA/LASA and the LARES Task Force, I have had the pleasure of working extensively with County Staff, Boards and Councilors. These interactions have taken place primarily in meetings and outreach settings, and have included research of various topics, discussion, public comment solicitation and feedback analysis, voting on recommended actions, and education activities with the community.

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

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-- Volunteer for Bloomington (IN) Recycling Committee. Advised on recycling to Solid Waste Management Board, including researching and initiating a pay-as-you-throw trash program (1992-1996) -- Research in environmental microbiology, soils, and climate change effects; B.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology, LANL Post-Doc and staff (1996-2008) -- Volunteer for Pajarito Environmental Education Center; grant research and writing, program assistance, docent, Earth Day Festival Co-chair (2015 to present) -- ESB member; liaison to BPU, Chair of Save As You Throw research subcommittee (8/1/2016 -7/31/2020) -- Founding member of Zero Waste Los Alamos/Los Alamos Sustainability Alliance (2018-present) -- Member of LARES Task Force; Chair of Waste, Consumption and Natural Resources Subcommittee (2021-2022) -- Member of GHG/CAP consultant RFP and selection working group (2022)

**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, of course!

**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

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## **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?**

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Yes  No

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