

---

**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.

 Jerry	 Cowan
First Name	Middle Initial Last Name

  
Street Address

Suite or Apt

Los Alamos

NM

87544

City

State

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

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

from a county councilor

**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?**

Parks and Recreation: Submitted

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

I am a life long resident of Los Alamos and am active in sports, hiking, and many other outdoor activities. Recently retired, I have time to invest in advocating for improving the existing parks and recreation facilities in town, as well as planning for new or expanded parks and recreation facilities.

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

I have spent time on the LA softball League Board, I volunteered as a coach for many years for youth soccer and Little League baseball. I volunteered time for trail work and tree planting projects in our open spaces/forests.

**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?**

As a recent retiree, I have enough free time for meetings and training sessions.

**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.)**

In general I would like to see our parks and sport facilities fixed up where necessary, and added to where possible. In specific, our softball fields at Overlook Park are in the worst condition I have seen in the 40 years I have played on them. The tennis courts on North Mesa and Barranca Mesa need resurfacing, The golf course renovation project is still waiting on delayed maintenance work. As a sports facilities user, I have a vested interest in seeing these facilities restored to excellent playing conditions.

**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

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

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Lai at 505-663-3436 or [barbara.lai@lacnm.us](mailto:barbara.lai@lacnm.us)

# LOS ALAMOS

## County Manager's Office BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Jerry Cowan

Applicant's Name

PRB

Board or Commission

Suzie Havemann

Interviewer Name

4/27/23 4:50pm

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	Please tell us a little about yourself and then describe your experience, education, and training that qualify you for this Board or Commission. <u>Born &amp; raised here, 30 yrs as a licensed contractor here, building houses. Knows the parks &amp; trails inside out! Cares about them. Developed good communication skills as a Contractor; understands negotiation &amp; compromise.</u>
2	What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the County? What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the Board/commission you applied for? [Note to interview panel: If the answer to this question appears to be off base with Council's position, please explore a little more.] <u>w/ County: balancing expon. growth w/ our amenities &amp; open space, etc.</u> <u>w/ PAR: w/ warmer &amp; drier climate, harder to maintain our fields, parks, etc. -- incl. educating the public.</u>
3	How do you perceive the role of County Boards and Commissions in local government? <u>+ Gophers!</u> <u>Waxe to get input from residents -</u> <u>+ to make our town a better place.</u>
4	What specific skills do you feel are important for effective Board or Commission members? Which ones do you possess? <u>Communication skills. Willingness to do research.</u> <u>To put in the time. Will strive to make an informed opinion. Availability.</u>
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? <u>Listen to all sides &amp; strive for common ground. -</u> <u>approach it in a non-combative way.</u>

6	<p>Have you served on any Boards, Commissions or Committees (not only County B&amp;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?</p> <p>Has not in last 5 yrs! (That's why he's here now!)</p>
7	<p>Are you familiar with the County Charter and County Code as they apply to the Board you are applying for?</p> <p>Has read about PRB &amp; PAR from County website. Ready &amp; able to research, put in the time.</p>
8	<p>Are you willing to take the time to attend training sessions to become more knowledgeable about your duties and responsibilities in an advisory capacity?</p> <p>yes.</p>
9	<p>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?</p> <p>No</p>
10	<p>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&amp;Cs to stream, is this - or will this - be a deterrent to your willingness to serve?</p> <p>No</p>
11	<p>[Interview panel: Ask questions you think necessary for clarification of the written answers this applicant provided as part of their application.]</p>
12	<p>Do you have any questions for the interview panel?</p> <p>Wants to add: strongly believes community involvement makes a community better — &amp; he has the time now?</p>

Notes:

# LOS ALAMOS

## County Manager's Office BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Jerry Cowan  
Applicant's Name

PRB  
Board or Commission

David Hampton  
Interviewer Name

4/27/23 5:00pm  
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	Please tell us a little about yourself and then describe your experience, education, and training that qualify you for this Board or Commission. <i>Lifelong LA licensed contractor. Childhood and adult life on trails. Used to looking for common ground. Compromise.</i>
2	What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the County? What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the Board/commission you applied for? [Note to interview panel: If the answer to this question appears to be off base with Council's position, please explore a little more.] <i>Balancing growth with existing amenities. Climate transition (grass main name) etc.</i>
3	How do you perceive the role of County Boards and Commissions in local government? <i>Putting <del>more</del> in time for the community.</i>
4	What specific skills do you feel are important for effective Board or Commission members? Which ones do you possess? <i>Communication. Listen and <del>good</del> speak. Time. Availability.</i>
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? <i>Willingness to compromise.</i>

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>No, lots of volunteer work.</i>
7	Are you familiar with the County Charter and County Code as they apply to the Board you are applying for? <i>Partially familiar.</i>
8	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>
9	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>
10	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>
11	<i>[Interview panel: Ask questions you think necessary for clarification of the written answers this applicant provided as part of their application.]</i>
12	Do you have any questions for the interview panel?

Notes:

# LOS ALAMOS

## County Manager's Office BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Jerry Cowan  
Applicant's Name

Parks Recreation Board  
Board or Commission

Wendy Parker  
Interviewer Name

4/27/23 - 5pm  
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	Please tell us a little about yourself and then describe your experience, education, and training that qualify you for this Board or Commission.  LA resident / Contractor building houses Knows the Parks system inside & out grew up here & as a contractor - has great communication & how to compromise.
2	What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the County? What do you believe are the greatest issues facing the Board/commission you applied for? [Note to interview panel: If the answer to this question appears to be off base with Council's position, please explore a little more.]  (Good understanding) County - Balancing growth / small town w/ limited space Board - Climate change harder to maintain the facilities & grow at higher quality. (Cuppens)
3	How do you perceive the role of County Boards and Commissions in local government?  People needed that involve the community Need input from County residents.
4	What specific skills do you feel are important for effective Board or Commission members? Which ones do you possess?  Communicate (listen & speak effectively) Be consistent on board. Willingness to research current elements Create an informed opinion / Being available
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?  Every issue approached as negotiable / compromise Listen & find common ground Has a great understanding of working w/ various groups

Revised 4/24/2023



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?  Has not served on any boards or commissions.
7	Are you familiar with the County Charter and County Code as they apply to the Board you are applying for?  Has read the PCB duties & responsibilities Happy to research anything required!
8	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! Can attend training on meetings
9	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 - Careful on what he says & puts in writing
10	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 - Not an issue!
11	[Interview panel: Ask questions you think necessary for clarification of the written answers this applicant provided as part of their application.]
12	Do you have any questions for the interview panel?

Notes:

Community involvement makes the  
down. stronger. Wanted us to know  
he is available & willing to serve.