

11. Consider and discuss qualifications of selected applicants for the Measure Q Citizens Oversight Advisory Committee ()



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Parks, Open Spaces, and Cultural Services & Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience

Subject: Consider the table of qualifications of selected applicants for the Measure Q Citizens Oversight Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: March 11, 2025

Formal Title: Consider and discuss qualifications of selected applicants for the Measure Q Citizens Oversight Advisory Committee

Recommended Actions

Consider the table of selected applicants under consideration for nomination for the Measure Q Citizens Oversight Advisory Board (COAB) from each supervisorial district, including their names and areas of expertise, as requested by the Board of Supervisors.

Executive Summary

In accordance with Board direction at the January 28, 2025, meeting, staff presents the matrix of candidates under consideration for appointment to the Measure Q Citizens Oversight Advisory Board (COAB) for both county and city appointment positions. This matrix aims to facilitate an informed selection of COAB members regarding the diversity of expertise consistent with Measure Q intent. The table also includes the most current information as to the COAB nomination process underway with the Cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, and Watsonville.

Discussion

Role and Responsibilities of the COAB

The Santa Cruz County Safe Drinking Water, Clean Beaches, Wildfire Risk Reduction and Wildlife Protection Act, also known as Measure Q, was approved by over 60% of voters in the November 2024 election. Part of the implementation includes establishing a nine-member Community Oversight Advisory Board (COAB) to ensure transparency and alignment with community goals. The COAB is subject to the Brown Act. The COAB's key responsibilities are:

- Selecting a land stewardship implementation partner.
- Providing recommendations to the Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience (OR3) and County Parks on the Vision Plan's development.
- Approving the 5-Year Vision Plan prepared by OR3 and County Parks, which synthesizes local climate, recreation, and resource management strategies to support grant criteria and awards.
- Receiving reports on funded projects and providing annual reports to the County's Board of Supervisors on project outcomes and leveraging of Measure Q funds.

COAB Application Process for County and City Positions

The application process for the COAB opened on January 27, 2025, through the County's commissions application portal, with a deadline to apply by February 24, 2025. There were 33 applications received. Each County supervisorial district has reviewed the applications received and determined up to three potential nominees per district for review at the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 11, 2025. Simultaneously, cities are conducting their own applicant review processes, with City Councils considering nominees and forwarding their selections to the County. The final

appointment of City nominees to the COAB is anticipated to take place at the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 25, 2025.

COAB Subject Matter Expertise requirement

As part of the Citizen Oversight Advisory Board requirement all members per Measure Q shall not hold any elected office and shall have demonstrated expertise in the following areas:

- a. Water quality, water supply, or flood protection management.
- b. Wildfire or forest management.
- c. Wildlife, parks, or natural resources stewardship.
- d. Working Lands or agricultural expertise.
- e. Environmental justice, park equity, or public health.
- f. Knowledge and expertise in evaluating financial transactions or program cost-effectiveness.

This table below presents up to three selected applicants per supervisorial district, as identified by each District Supervisor to represent their district on the COAB. It lists their names and areas of expertise, as requested by the Board of Supervisors at the January 28, 2025, meeting. Staff has tentatively scheduled the first meeting of the COAB for Wednesday, April 16 from 5:30 - 7:30 PM at Simpkins Family Swim Center. Tentative agenda items will include reviewing the bylaws and proposed meeting schedule.

Table 1. District-Selected Applicants & Qualifications for Measure Q COAB

Applicant	Applicant self-selected fields in which they have relevant, demonstrable expertise						Act Req.
	Water quality, supply & flood mgmt.	Wildfire or forest mgmt.	Wildlife, parks or natural resources stewardship	Working lands or agriculture	Environmental justice, park equity, or public health	Financial and/or program analysis	Does not currently hold elected office
District 1:							
A. Terry Corwin		X	X	X	X	X	X
B. Julieann Howard		X	X	X		X	X
C. Sanjay Khandelwal		X				X	X
District 2:							
A. Dennis Web	X	X	X	X			X
B. Brian Woodward		X	X	X			X
District 3:							
A. Sandy Brown			X	X	X	X	X
B. Tim Carson	X						X
C. Joseph Parsons Christy		X	X		X	X	X
District 4:							
A. Julissa Espindola	X		X		X		X
B. Yesenia Jimenez	X	X	X	X	X		X
C. Karina Moreno			X	X	X		X

District 5: A. Mark Correia	X	X	X		X	X	X
B. Lauren Hanneman	X		X		X		X
C. Dennis Web	X	X	X	X			X
City Positions	Water quality, supply & flood mgmt.	Wildfire or forest mgmt.	Wildlife, parks or natural resources stewardship	Working lands or agriculture	Environmental justice, park equity, or public health	Financial and/or program analysis	Does not currently hold elected office
Capitola: under consideration A. Jed Wilson B. Scott Harway							X
Santa Cruz: selected Rachel Dann							X
Scotts Valley: selected David Sanguinetti							X
Watsonville: under consideration Abel Sanchez							X

The City Councils from Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley have completed their application and nomination processes for their COAB positions. The City of Santa Cruz has selected Rachel Dann and City of Scotts Valley has selected David Sanguinetti as their nominees. The Capitola City Council will be considering the applications of Jed Wilson and Scott Harway as the city nominee on March 13, 2025. The City of Watsonville will be considering the application of Abel Sanchez as the Watsonville nominee on March 11, 2024. We anticipate that the cities will complete their Measure Q nomination selection processes such that the Board can consider the city appointments on March 25, 2025 when final county appointments are anticipated for BOS action. We do not have official information from the city nominees regarding the area of subject matter knowledge that the city nominees will bring at this time. If possible, we will get this information regarding city nominees, selected or under consideration, and provide that at the March 11, 2025 discussion of the COAB nominees matrix.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact from the recommended action.

Strategic Initiatives

Equity Framework - Community Voices & Partnership
Operational Plan - Comprehensive Health & Safety, Sustainable Environment
Climate Action - Water, Natural & Working Lands, Wildfire Prevention

Submitted By:

Jeff Gaffney, Director of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services & David Reid, Director of the Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Agenda Management Support](#)
Subject: #11 comment_Steinbruner, B
Date: Monday, March 10, 2025 4:51:14 PM

From: Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 7, 2025 10:34 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Cc: Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
Subject: Public Comment on Measure Q Advisory Board Nominees and \$50,000 Consultant (Board Agenda Item #11 on 3/10/2025)

******CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Dear Supervisors,

The list of nominees for the Measure Q Advisory Board is interesting. I do not feel it is right to include analysts working for the Supervisors on the list, no matter how qualified they may be. I also do not feel it is right to have a Board member of Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks on the nominee list because it lacks transparency.

Will OR3 and Parks also divulge the name of the consultant for which the County will pay \$50,000 to develop the Five Year Plan for Measure Q funded project priorities? Your Board did not publicly discuss that issue that was included in the January 28 staff report.

Who is the consultant? In the end, their Plan will be what guides the Advisory Board, because OR3 and Parks Dept. staff will recommend that what the consultant recommends gets approved. Otherwise, why pay \$50,000?

Sincerely,
Becky Steinbruner



MEASURE Q

Review of selected applicants for the Citizens Oversight Advisory Committee (COAB)

Elissa Benson, Assistant County Executive Officer

Discussion Overview

- **Role & Responsibilities of the COAB**
- **COAB Selection Criteria**
- **District-Selected Applicants & Qualifications Table**
- **Recommended Actions**



Role and Responsibilities of the COAB



Selecting a land stewardship implementation partner.



Providing recommendations to the Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience (OR3) and County Parks on the Vision Plan's development.



Approving the 5-Year Vision Plan prepared by OR3 and County Parks, which synthesizes local climate, recreation, and resource management strategies to support grant criteria and awards.



Receiving reports on funded projects and providing annual reports to the County's Board of Supervisors on project outcomes and leveraging of Measure Q funds.

COAB Selection Criteria

The Advisory Board (COAB) shall be composed of nine (9) members, five (5) appointed by the Board of Supervisors with one selection from each of the five (5) Supervisorial districts, and four (4) appointed with one selection from each incorporated city. *The COAB is subject to the Brown Act.*

The Advisory Board members **shall not hold any elected office** and shall **have demonstrated expertise** in at least one of the following areas:



- (a) Water quality, water supply, or flood protection management.
- (b) Wildfire or forest management.
- (c) Wildlife, parks, or natural resources stewardship.
- (d) Working Lands or agricultural expertise.
- (e) Environmental justice, park equity, or public health.
- (f) Knowledge and expertise in evaluating financial transactions or program cost-effectiveness.

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District 1: A. Terry Corwin		X	X	X	X	X	X
B. Julieann Howard		X	X	X		X	X
C. Sanjay Khandelwal		X				X	X
District 2: A. Dennis Web	X	X	X	X			X
B. Brian Woodward		X	X	X			X
District 3: A. Sandy Brown			X	X	X	X	X
B. Tim Carson	X						X
C. Joseph Parsons Christy		X	X		X	X	X
District 4: A. Julissa Espindola	X		X		X		X
B. Yesenia Jimenez	X	X	X	X	X		X
C. Karina Moreno			X	X	X		X
District 5: A. Mark Correia	X	X	X		X	X	X
B. Lauren Hanneman	X		X		X		X
C. Dennis Web	X	X	X	X			X
Capitola: (under consideration) A. Jed Wilson							X
B. Scott Harway							
Santa Cruz: Rachel Dann							X
Scotts Valley: David Sanguinetti							X
Watsonville: (under consideration) Abel Sanchez							X

Recommended Actions & Next Steps

1. Consider the table of qualifications of selected applicants for the Measure Q Citizens Oversight Advisory

Next steps: Approve final appointments for Board of Supervisors Meeting on March 25, 2025



Questions?

Thank You

