

# SONOMA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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## Staff Report

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Meeting Date: September 3, 2025

Agenda No: Item 5.1

Agenda Item Title: Appointment of Public Member and Public Member Alternate (if required)

Proposal: Staff are requesting that the Commission select a Public Member, and a Public Member Alternate if required, from a pool of three candidates. The Public Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee will make their recommendation to the Commission.

Environmental  
Determination: Not a project under CEQA

Staff Contact: Mark Bramfitt

## Analysis

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### Background

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act directs the Commission to have a Public Member appointed by the balance of the Commission and allows for the selection of an Alternate Public Member to serve in instances when the Public Member is unavailable, or the position becomes vacant.

With the resignation of the Commission's former Public member earlier this year, Alternate Public Member Hodges has been serving in an acting capacity while staff have conducted a recruitment effort.

Staff received three applications for the Public Member position (attached) and all applicants have indicated they would serve in the Alternate Public Member position if appointed. One applicant (Nance Jones) is currently serving on the Sweetwater Springs Water District board and has indicated she would resign from that agency if selected to serve as a Commissioner.

To appoint a Public Member the Commission must have an affirmative vote of at least one of the members appointed by each of the other appointing authorities (the County, Cities, and special districts).

The law is silent regarding a situation where the six Commissioners cannot reach agreement on an appointment. Staff recommends considering reopening the recruitment process if this occurs.

If Alternate Public Member Hodges is appointed as Public Member, the Commission would then appoint a new Alternate. If another candidate is selected, Commissioner Hodges would continue to serve in his role as Alternate through the end of his current term.

The Commission did appoint an ad hoc committee consisting of Commissioners Harvey, Hermosillo, and Holmer to review applicants, and they will be able to report on their recommendations.

### Recommendation

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Staff recommend that the Commission:

- Name a Public Member with a four-year term expiring in 2029.
- If needed, name a Public Member Alternate with a four-year term expiring in 2029.

**Alternate Recommendation**

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None.

**Attachments:**

1. Application packages for three candidates.