

# Memo

**To:** Members, Board of Supervisors  
**From:** Rich Gordon and Jerry Hill  
**Date:** 12/09/02  
**Re:** Appointments to Resource Conservation District Board

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that Rich Allen, Roxy Stone Hoffman, and Bill Nelson be appointed to the Resource Conservation District Board of Directors. Their term would begin immediately and their service would be for a four-year term ending with the November election in 2006.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Resource Conservation District is an independent special district. The five members of the District Board of Directors should be elected by the voters of the district. However, under California law, a Resource Conservation District can choose to not have its Directors elected. If the District makes this decision, the Directors are to be appointed by the County Board of Supervisors.

The San Mateo County Resource Conservation District has chosen to not hold an election for members of their Board of Directors. The RCD has limited funding and would prefer to not use these funds to support an election, but to retain the funds for general operating expenses.

Upon notice from the RCD that they did not want to hold an election in 2002, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors circulated a notice of vacancy for three positions on the RCD Board. Two incumbents (Toni Danzig and Jim Rourke) chose not to seek re-appointment. One incumbent (Louie Figone) chose to seek re-appointment. Eleven other individuals made application for appointment.

Of the twelve original applicants, four eventually withdrew their application. We interviewed all eight of the remaining candidates. We also then conducted a process to make sure that the applicants were qualified to serve. Applicants must be registered to vote and must either own land within the district boundaries or be a designated agent of a landowner in the district. All applicants were able to verify that they could meet these requirements.

We respect the many years of service that Louie Figone has given to the Resource Conservation District. Mr. Figone has most recently served as Chair of the RCD Board of Directors. We believe that all volunteer boards can benefit from change and for that reason support term limits such as are imposed on County boards and commissions. While there is no term limit requirement for the

independent special district of the RCD, we are prepared to thank Louie Figone for his service and recommend other candidates.

Rich Allen is the owner/operator of Moss Beach Ranch and is a founding member of the Coastside Horse Council. He is the designated agent of Larry DeYoung of Montara.

Roxy Stone Hoffman is the Director of Sales and Marketing for the Grand Hyatt Hotel in San Francisco. She lives in rural area south of Half Moon Bay and is President of the Coastside Horse Council.

Bill Nelson has a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry and is currently an Associate Director of Sugan, Inc in South San Francisco. Dr. Nelson is a resident of Montara and is the designated agent of Dana Denman of Shamrock Ranch.

We recommend the appointment of Rich Allen, Roxy Stone Hoffman, and Bill Nelson to serve on the Board of Directors of the Resource Conservation District.