

PLACER LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

Robert Weygandt, (County), Chair; Joshua Alpine (District), Vice Chair; Cindy Gustafson (County); Paul Joiner (City); William Kahl, (District); Joe Patterson, (City); Susan Rohan, (Public), Alternate Commissioners: Scott Alvord (City); Jeffrey Stark (Public); Jim Holmes, (County); Mike Lynch (District)

REGULAR HEARING AGENDA

March 10, 2021 - 4:00 P.M.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES:

Public Participation Procedures

In order to protect public health and the safety of our Placer County citizens, attendance for the Placer LAFCO meeting will be offered as a completely virtual Zoom meeting. Placer LAFCO will be closed to public attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES DUE TO COVID-19 Concerns:

In order to protect public health and the safety of our Placer County citizens, the Public Comment for the LAFCO meeting (Local Agency Formation Commission) will be offered through a Zoom meeting webinar. Citizens who wish to comment should be prepared to use Zoom by:

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android
Please click the link below to join the Zoom meeting

<https://placer-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/99057427362>

Meeting ID: 990 5742 7362

877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free)

Interested parties are encouraged to check Placer LAFCO's website for any updates, including updates to the above call-in numbers and the meeting procedures www.placer.ca.gov/2704/Loca-Agen.cy-Formation-Commission-LAFCO

In compliance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20-EO on telephone meetings, the public's participation will be supported through web or phone participation for attendees. When Public Comment is opened, participants may "raise hand" to be called upon to give their public comment.

- 1. Those joining online through the web meeting should "Raise Hand" in the Zoom meeting window. They will be called by the name they entered in the Zoom session, and they will be prompted to unmute their microphone so they can state their name for the record and give their comment.*
- 2. Those who are calling in via phone may dial *9 to raise their hand once Public Comment is opened. The Executive Officer will read out the caller's phone number and they will be notified that they are unmuted. The Executive officer will then direct them to state their name for the record and give their comment.*

Alternatively, citizens may submit their comments in written form to the Commission.

If you wish to submit written comments, please submit to Placer LAFCO at kberry@placer.ca.gov prior to 2:00 on March 10, 2021.

Emails received though the email address after 2:00 p.m. the afternoon of the meeting will still become part of the official record and will be retained.

1. **Flag Salute**
2. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
3. **Approval of Agenda (Action item)**
4. **New Commissioner:** A newly Selected City member will be sworn in and seated.
5. **Public Comment:** This is the time when persons may address the Commission on items not on the agenda. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes as the Commission is not permitted to take any action on items presented as public comment.
6. **Transfer of Jurisdiction to El Dorado LAFCO:** The Commission will be asked to consider a transfer of Jurisdiction for processing of an annexation of the Meeks Bay Fire Protection to the North Tahoe Fire Protection District.
7. **Recruitment of Executive Officer and Staffing of LAFCO:** Further discussion to consider staffing levels for LAFCO and the recruitment process for the Executive Officer and Commission Clerk.
8. **Special District and City Commission Representation:** Staff will give a brief update regarding the status of the selection process for the Special District and City Commission seats.
9. **Executive Officer Reports:**
 - Legislative Committee
 - Update Proposal Status
10. **Commissioner Reports:**
11. **Adjournment:** Next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2021

For further information or to provide written comments on any item on the agenda, please contact the Placer LAFCO. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Placer LAFCO office at 110 Maple Street, Auburn, CA 95603 during normal business hours. Phone: (530) 889-4097 or kberry@placer.ca.gov. Placer LAFCO is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate in its meetings. If you require a disability-related accommodation, please contact the Clerk to the Commission at least two business days prior to the meeting date.

PLACER COUNTY
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

110 Maple Street, Auburn California 95603


530-889-4097

Email: lafco@placer.ca.gov

STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 3, 2021

TO: Commissioners Alpine, Gustafson, Joiner, Kahrl, Patterson, Rohan, Weygandt.
Alternate Commissioners Alvord, Starsky, Holmes, Lynch

FROM: Kris Berry, Executive Officer 

RE: Request for Transfer of Jurisdiction from El Dorado LAFCO

SUMMARY:

El Dorado LAFCO has requested (Exhibit "A") a transfer of Jurisdiction for the processing of a proposed Reorganization (El Dorado LAFCO's March 3, 2021 meeting) to allow annexation of Meeks Bay Fire Protection District, to the North Tahoe Fire Protection District. North Tahoe FPD has been providing service to Meeks Bay Fire Protection District under contract since 2014.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission consider and approve the requested transfer of jurisdiction. Normally, Placer LAFCO, as the principal county, would be the LAFCO processing the annexation portion of the proposal, with El Dorado LAFCO processing the required Sphere of Influence amendments.

DISCUSSION:

North Tahoe Fire Protection District has been providing fire protection services to the Meeks Bay Fire Protection district under contract since 2014. In 2017, the districts engaged the services of Emergency Services Consulting International to complete a comprehensive Standards of coverage and Deployment Plan. The two Boards held a joint meeting in August, 2018 to consider the report and to discuss alternate governance models, including reorganization. The two Fire Protection Districts are still considering a reorganization that would consist of 1) a "zero sphere" amendment to the Meeks Bay FPD, 2) a dissolution of the Meeks Bay FPD, 3) a sphere of influence amendment adding the territory of the existing

Meeks Bay FPD to the North Tahoe FPD, and 4) an annexation of the territory to the North Tahoe FPD.

In LAFCO Law, a “principal county” is defined as the county having the greater portion of the entire assessed value of all taxable property within a district or districts for which a change of organization or reorganization is proposed. The assess value within the North Tahoe FPD is approximately \$6.9 billion, and the total assessed value within Meeks Bay FPD is approximately \$1.1 billion. Based on the assessed valuations, Placer would be the Principal county for the reorganization, with the exception of the Meeks Bay FPD sphere amendment. This was previously discussed with our Commission at the May 8, 2019 meeting, and the Commission directed staff to send a letter to El Dorado LAFCO (see attached Exhibit “B”) transferring jurisdiction to El Dorado LAFCO.

Meeks Bay FPD has expressed a strong desire for El Dorado LAFCO to process the entire proposal, allowing it to work with a single LAFCO. It would also allow the LAFCO with the most expertise with the area to process the proposal. Staff is recommending that for this proposal, that Placer LAFCO transfer the jurisdiction from Placer LAFCO to El Dorado LAFCO. Staff will continue to assist El Dorado LAFCO throughout the processing of the proposal and give regular updates to our Commission.

Exhibit “A” Request from El Dorado LAFCO for transfer of Jurisdiction and Staff Report
Exhibit “B” May 21, 2019 Letter to El Dorado LAFCO



LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
 550 Main Street, Suite E. Placerville, CA 95667
 (530) 295-2707 · lafco@edlafco.us · www.edlafco.us

March 3, 2021

Kristina Berry, Executive Officer
 Placer Local Agency Formation Commission
 110 Maple Street
 Auburn, CA 95603

SUBJECT: Potential Annexation of Meeks Bay Fire Protection District by North Tahoe Fire Protection District

Dear Ms. Berry,

On behalf of the El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission, I respectfully request that your Commission consider and approve the transfer of jurisdiction to El Dorado LAFCO for processing the potential annexation of Meeks Bay Fire Protection District by North Tahoe FPD.

As you know, in April 2014, Meeks Bay FPD and North Tahoe FPD entered into a contract for services. Per the terms of the agreement, the North Tahoe FPD Fire Chief serves both agencies and a full-time NTFPD Chief Officer is assigned to Meeks Bay FPD to oversee its daily operation and to act as a liaison to the Meeks Bay FPD Board. North Tahoe FPD provides management of Meeks Bay FPD firefighters and staff for fire protection, training and administrative duties.

In 2017, North Tahoe FPD and Meeks Bay FPD engaged the services of Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) to complete a comprehensive Standards of Coverage and Deployment Plan. ESCI concluded that both districts would be served if Meeks Bay FPD was annexed by North Tahoe FPD. The North Tahoe and Meeks Bay FPD Boards of Directors held a joint meeting in August 2018 to consider this report and discuss alternative governance models, including reorganization.

Since that time, the two FPDs are still considering a joint reorganization proposal in which Meeks Bay FPD would be dissolved and the territory would be annexed into North Tahoe FPD. This proposal would require four separate actions: 1) a "zero sphere" amendment to the Meeks Bay FPD, 2) a dissolution of the Meeks Bay FPD, 3) a sphere of influence amendment adding the territory to the North Tahoe FPD, and 4) an annexation of the territory to the North Tahoe FPD.

S:\LAFCO Commission Meetings\2021\03 - March 3 Special\Item 8 Staff Memo Attachment A (Request Transfer of Jurisdiction)-SIGN.docx

COMMISSIONERS

Public Member: Michael Powell • Alternate Public Member: Holly Morrison
 City Members: Cody Bass, Jackie Neau • Alternate City Member: Kara Taylor
 County Members: John Hidahl, Wendy Thomas • Alternate County Member: George Turnbo
 Special District Members: Tim Palmer, Vacant • Alternate Special District Member: Michael Saunders

STAFF

José C. Henríquez, Executive Officer • Erica Sanchez, Assistant Executive Officer
 Chelsea Edman, Administrative Assistant • Malathy Subramanian, Commission Counsel

APPROVED

Meeks Bay FPD is entirely within El Dorado County, and North Tahoe FPD is entirely within Placer County. As the two existing districts are separate, and lie wholly within their respective counties, El Dorado is the principal county for Meeks Bay FPD and Placer is the principal county for North Tahoe FPD.

In CKH, "principal county" is defined as the county having the greater portion of the entire assessed value of all taxable property within a district or districts for which a change of organization or reorganization is proposed. The total assessed value within North Tahoe FPD is approximately \$6.9 billion, and the total assessed value within Meeks Bay FPD is approximately \$1.1 billion. Based on the assessed valuations, Placer would be the principal county for the reorganization, with exception of the proposed Meeks Bay FPD sphere of influence amendment.

Placer LAFCO considered several options for the transfer of jurisdiction at its March 13, 2019 meeting. Placer LAFCO did not vote on the item but provided direction that its preference was for El Dorado LAFCO to be the principal LAFCO for the Meeks Bay FPD zero sphere designation and dissolution, and Placer LAFCO to be the principal LAFCO for the North Tahoe FPD sphere of influence amendment and annexation of territory.

While El Dorado LAFCO is content with this preference, this Commission has, in the past, verbally expressed its preference to process the annexation portion of the reorganization as well. In our assessment, there are many benefits for this LAFCO to process both dissolution and the annexation, one of which is the reduction of duplicative efforts. Of course, Placer LAFCO would retain setting the SOI for North Tahoe FPD. In addition, El Dorado LAFCO would closely coordinate with your office and ensure expenses incurred by Placer LAFCO are recouped, as necessary.

Please let me know of your Commission's decision. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,



Tim Palmer, Chair
El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission

EXHIBIT B

**PLACER COUNTY
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

110 MAPLE STREET, AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603 - 530-889-4097
LAFCO@PLACER.CA.GOV

COMMISSIONERS:

May 21, 2019

**E. HOWARD RUDD,
CHAIR (PUBLIC)**

Shiva Frentzen, Chair
El Dorado Local Agency Formation
550 Main Street, Suite E
Placerville, CA 95667

**ROBERT WEYGANDT
VICE CHAIR (COUNTY)**

**JOSHUA ALPINE
(SPECIAL DISTRICTS)**

**BONNIE GORE
(COUNTY)**

RE: North Tahoe and Meeks Bay Fire Districts

**JOE PATTERSON
(CITY)**

Dear Chair Frentzen:

**WILLIAM KAHRL
(SPECIAL DISTRICTS)**

As you are aware, staff of both El Dorado County LAFCO and Placer LAFCO have been meeting with North Tahoe Fire Protection District (which is entirely in Placer County) and Meeks Bay Fire Protection District (which is entirely in El Dorado County) regarding a potential dissolution of Meeks Bay and the annexation of the Meeks Bay territory into North Tahoe Fire.

**PAUL JOINER
(CITY)**

**ALTERNATE
COMMISSIONERS:**

**JIM HOLMES
(COUNTY)**

Placer is the "Principal County" as defined in Government Code Section 56066 for this proposal. Accordingly, this Commission has exclusive jurisdiction of the proposal under Government Code Section 56387 unless jurisdiction is transferred under Government Code Section 56388. Although we initially recommended the transfer of jurisdiction for the dissolution of Meeks Bay to El Dorado LAFCO in order to maximize the involvement of El Dorado LAFCO in the proposal, we understand that at your April meeting it was suggested that Placer LAFCO should process the entire application as a means of reducing costs. This is a valid concern and upon further consideration it appears the process would be simplified by Placer County processing the entire application as the Principal County LAFCO.

**JIM GRAY
(PUBLIC)**

**SCOTT ALVORD
(CITY)**

**MIKE LYNCH
(SPECIAL DISTRICTS)**

STAFF:

**KRIS BERRY, AICP
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**LINDA WILKIE
CLERK TO THE
COMMISSION**

**WILLIAM WRIGHT
LAFCO COUNSEL**

Placer LAFCO looks forward to working with El Dorado LAFCO and encourages the greatest possible involvement by El Dorado in the proposal. However, in order to avoid any further delay in this matter, we suggest the two districts file the application with Placer LAFCO as the Principal County LAFCO. We will stay in close communication with El Dorado LAFCO staff to coordinate the interests of all concerned.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely

Kristina Berry, AICP
Executive Officer

Cc: North Tahoe Fire Protection District
Meeks Bay Fire Protection District
José Enriquez, El Dorado LAFCO Executive Officer
Placer LAFCO
William Wright, Counsel

EL DORADO LAFCO

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

AGENDA OF MARCH 3, 2021

SPECIAL MEETING

TO: Tim Palmer, Chair, and
Members of the El Dorado County Local Agency Formation
Commission

FROM: José C. Henríquez, Executive Officer

AGENDA ITEM #8: CONSIDER SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR THE TRANSFER
OF JURISDICTION FROM PLACER LAFCO OVER THE
DISSOLUTION OF THE MEEKS BAY FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission consider and approve the attached letter to the Placer Local Agency Formation Commission, requesting the transfer of jurisdiction to process the potential Meeks Bay Fire Protection District annexation to North Tahoe FPD to this LAFCO.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

In 2019, both LAFCOs came to an agreement on how to process the potential annexation of Meeks Bay FPD into North Tahoe FPD. El Dorado LAFCO would process the sphere of influence and the dissolution of Meeks Bay FPD. Placer LAFCO would process the expansion of the North Tahoe FPD SOI and the annexation of the Meeks Bay service area. Placer LAFCO has recently indicated its willingness to allow El Dorado LAFCO to process everything but the North Tahoe FPD SOI expansion. The attached letter would start the process of transferring jurisdiction.

BACKGROUND

In April 2014, Meeks Bay Fire Protection District (MEK) and North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD) entered into a contract for services. Per the terms of the agreement, the North Tahoe FPD Fire Chief serves both agencies and a full-time NTFPD Chief Officer is assigned to Meeks Bay FPD to oversee its daily operation and to act as a liaison to the Meeks Bay FPD Board. North Tahoe FPD provides management of Meeks Bay FPD firefighters and staff for fire protection, training and administrative duties.

Meeks Bay FPD is entirely within El Dorado County, and North Tahoe FPD is entirely within Placer County. As the two existing districts are separate, and lie wholly within their respective counties, El Dorado is the principal county for Meeks Bay FPD and Placer is the principal county for North Tahoe FPD.

Future Next Steps

In 2017, North Tahoe FPD and Meeks Bay FPD engaged the services of Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) to complete a comprehensive Standards of Coverage and Deployment Plan. ESCI concluded that both districts would be served if Meeks Bay FPD was annexed by North Tahoe FPD. The North Tahoe and Meeks Bay FPD Boards of Directors held a joint meeting in August 2018 to consider this report and discuss alternative governance models, including reorganization.

Since that time, the two FPDs are still considering a joint reorganization proposal in which Meeks Bay FPD would be dissolved and the territory would be annexed into North Tahoe FPD. A similar reorganization occurred between El Dorado Hills County Water District (Fire Department) and the former Latrobe FPD.

This reorganization is a more desirable path for the districts. The other option would be a "consolidation," where both districts dissolve and a new one is formed out of the combined service area.

A Matter of Jurisdiction

To make this reorganization happen, the proposal would require four separate actions: 1) a "zero sphere" amendment to the Meeks Bay FPD, 2) a dissolution of the Meeks Bay FPD, 3) a sphere of influence amendment adding the territory to the North Tahoe FPD, and 4) an annexation of the territory to the North Tahoe FPD.

In LAFCO Law, "principal county" is defined as the county having the greater portion of the entire assessed value of all taxable property within a district or districts for which a change of organization or reorganization is proposed. The total assessed value within North Tahoe FPD is approximately \$6.9 billion, and the total assessed value within Meeks Bay FPD is approximately \$1.1 billion. Based on the assessed valuations, Placer would be the principal county for the reorganization, with exception of the proposed Meeks Bay FPD sphere of influence amendment.

Prior Tentative Agreements

MEK has expressed a strong desire for El Dorado LAFCO to process the entire reorganization, save for the designation of the NTFPD SOI. On March 19, 2019, Placer LAFCO considered several options for the transfer of jurisdiction. Placer LAFCO did not vote on the item but provided direction that its preference was for El Dorado LAFCO to be the principal LAFCO for the Meeks Bay FPD zero sphere designation and dissolution, and Placer LAFCO to be the principal LAFCO for the North Tahoe FPD sphere of influence amendment and annexation of territory.

While this Commission has verbally expressed its preference to process the annexation portion of the reorganization in the past, El Dorado LAFCO has been content with Placer LAFCO's preference.

Recently it became known that Placer LAFCO's EO and Chair are open to revisiting the issue of who processes the annexation and have indicated they would be willing to support the transfer of jurisdiction. There are many advantages to this, but they mainly focus around two key pieces:

- 1) It is MEK's preference to be working with a single LAFCO
- 2) There are economies of scale to process both petitions simultaneously by one LAFCO.

Staff recommends that the Chair sign the attached letter and have it sent to Placer LAFCO so that entire Commission can consider the request and vote on it.

Attachments

Attachment A: Letter to Placer LAFCO

March 10, 2021
Item No. 7

PLACER COUNTY
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

110 Maple Street, Auburn California 95603


530-889-4097

Email: lafco@placer.ca.gov

STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 4, 2021

TO: Commissioners Alpine, Gustafson, Joiner, Kahrl, Patterson, Rohan, Weygandt.
Alternate Commissioners Alvord, Starsky, Holmes, Lynch

FROM: Kris Berry, Executive Officer 

RE: Recruitment of Executive Officer and Staffing of LAFCO

SUMMARY

As the Commission is aware, I have announced my retirement. At our February 10, 2021, the Commission discussed the position of the Executive Officer, and made the decision to recruit for a regular full-time employee for the position and formed a Committee for recruitment purposes.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended the Commission receive an update on the recruitment and consider the various options for staffing LAFCO.

DISCUSSION

Staff sent a request out on the CALAFCO List serve for any Executive Officer recruitment brochures and flyers and received only a few flyers. In addition, there were a few recent ones that were found thru a search process. These flyers were forwarded on to the rest of the Committee, Consisting of Chair Weygandt, Commissioner Rohan and Counsel Bill Wright. The Committee, as of this time, has not yet met to review these brochures and consult with Human Resources.

The Commission may also wish to discuss staffing levels for LAFCO, including the Clerk position or other various options that may be available.

PLACER COUNTY
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 4, 2021

TO: Commissioners Alpine, Gustafson, Joiner, Kahrl, Patterson, Rohan, Weygandt.
Alternate Commissioners Alvord, Starsky, Holmes, Lynch

FROM: Kris Berry, Executive Officer

RE: Status of Special District and City LAFCO Commissioners

SUMMARY

Both the regular and the alternate position of Special District Commissioner, and one City Commissioner seat are currently being recruited.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended the Commission receive an update on the Special District and City member seats.

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to §56325 of the Cortese Knox Hertzberg Local Government act of 2000 (CKH), Special District seats on the Commission are determined by election by the Special Districts. A request for nominations was sent electronically to all Special Districts on February 2, 2021, with a requested date of return of March 16, 2021. Once these have been received and verified, staff will then send out ballots with the names to all Special Districts for the election. One regular seat and the alternate seat are included in the election process.

City members are selected, pursuant to §56335 of CKH, by the City Selection Committee. This meeting is called by the Board of Supervisors Clerk. The City Selection Committee was scheduled to meet on March 4, 2021, the results of which were not available at the time of the preparation of this report. If they are successful, the agenda for this meeting does include swearing in of new Commissioner(s).