



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 17, 2023

DATE: Monday, January 09, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Erick Willrich, Assistant to the County Manager
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THROUGH: Eric Brown, Washoe County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to appoint two regular members to serve on the Washoe County Board of Equalization with terms to expire June 30, 2026; and appoint one alternate member with a term to expire June 30, 2023. Applicants include: James Ainsworth, John Briscoe, Roger Edwards, Barbara "Bobbi" Lazzarone, and Rob Pierce. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The Board is being requested to appoint two individuals as regular members to the Washoe County Board of Equalization with terms to expire on June 30, 2026, and appoint one individual as an alternate member with a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Stewardship of Our Community.

PREVIOUS ACTION

December 10, 2019 – Reappointed Ms. Eugenia Larmore as a regular member; appointed Mr. Daren McDonald as a regular member; appointed Mr. Philip Horan as an alternate member.

September 4, 2018 – Appointed Mr. James Ainsworth and Ms. Barbara "Bobbi" Lazzarone as regular members; appointed Ms. Jamie Krahne as an alternate member

January 16, 2018 – Appointed Ms. Jamie Krahne as an alternate member.

January 9, 2019 – Appointed Mr. James Richards as a regular member.

November 15, 2016 – Reappointed Mr. James Covert as an alternate member.

November 10, 2015 – Appointed Ms. Eugenia Larmore as a regular member; appointed Ms. Barbara "Bobbi" Lazzarone as a regular member; reappointed Mr. Philip Horan as a regular member.

October 28, 2014 – Appointed Mr. James Ainsworth and Mr. Benjamin Green as regular members; appointed Ms. Eugenia Larmore as an alternate member.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

BACKGROUND

The Washoe County Board of Equalization is charged with hearing appeals filed by property owners who do not agree with the value placed on their property for tax purposes by the County Assessor. The Board conducts its business annually during the month of February and is required to conclude its business on or before the last day of February.

Pursuant to NRS 361.340, the Washoe County Board of Equalization is comprised of five members with four-year terms. Alternate member terms are appointed for a term of one year, with the option of reappointment for an additional one-year term.

NRS 361.340(4) provides as follows: “The chair of the board of county commissioners shall nominate persons to serve on the county board of equalization who are sufficiently experienced in business generally to be able to bring knowledge and sound judgment to the deliberations of the board or who are elected public officers. The nominees must be appointed upon a majority vote of the board of county commissioners. The chair of the board of county commissioners shall designate one of the appointees to serve as chair of the county board of equalization.”

Washoe County Board of Equalization currently has the following members:

Current Members:

Ms. Eugenia Larmore, term expires June 2023
Mr. Dennis L. George, term expires June 2024
Mr. Daren McDonald, term expires June 2023

Alternate:

None

The other two members of the Washoe County Board of Equalization, Mr. James Ainsworth, and Ms. Barbara “Bobbi” Lazzarone, both had their terms expire on June 30, 2022.

Recruitment for Washoe County Board of Equalization members is a continuous ongoing process. At the current time, Mr. John Briscoe has applied and has indicated his willingness to serve as an alternate member of the Board. No other applications were received for the Washoe County Board of Equalization. However, both Mr. James Ainsworth and Ms. Barbara “Bobbi” Lazzarone have indicated their willingness to serve as regular members of the Washoe County Board of Equalization.

At its January 3, 2023 meeting, the Board of County Commissioners requested further recruitment be conducted to seek additional interested applicants. The recruitment was posted on January 3, 2023, and ran through January 8, 2023.

Applications were received from:

James Ainsworth
John Briscoe
Roger Edwards
Barbara “Bobbi” Lazzarone
Rob Pierce

FISCAL IMPACT

Washoe County Board of Equalization members are compensated at a rate of \$125 per meeting. There is adequate budget authority in the adopted Fiscal Year 2022/23 budget, account 100107-710400 in support of these costs.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board appoint two regular members to serve on the Washoe County Board of Equalization with terms to expire June 30, 2026; and appoint one alternate member with a term to expire June 30, 2023.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with the recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to appoint _____ and _____, as regular members to serve on the Washoe County Board of Equalization with terms to expire June 30, 2026; and appoint _____ as an alternate member with a term to expire June 30, 2023.”