

North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District

(formerly the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District)

An independent special district of the State of California

888 N. 1st St, Ste 204, San Jose, CA 95112 408-288-5888 gcrcd@gcrcd.org www.rcdsantaclara.org

Director Application

Please submit this application to NSCRCD using this [online form](#) or via email at gcrcd@gcrcd.org. For assistance with your application or to request reasonable accommodations to submit your application in an alternative format, please contact the NSCRCD office at 408-288-5888 or email Executive Director Stephanie Moreno at gcrcd@gcrcd.org.

Name: Melanie Richardson

Mailing Address: [REDACTED] San Jose, CA, 95120

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

1. Describe your background and/or experience in agriculture, natural resource conservation, environmental sciences, and/or another related field.

I am a registered Professional Engineer in the State of California and spent almost 34 years working in various positions at Santa Clara Valley Water District including Chief Operating Officer of Watersheds and Assistant CEO. In my position as Watersheds Chief, I had responsibility for balancing all of the complex and competing needs of Santa Clara County's 5 major watershed areas. I am very aware of the significance of the natural resources in our County and their importance in ensuring a sustainable natural environment. I led or participated in several high level, complex negotiations with environmental regulatory agencies, watershed stakeholders and other interested parties with respect to new projects or programs in the County. These efforts helped me to clearly understand the value and importance of the natural resources in our County and the challenge of attaining a reasonable balance of environmental protection, recreation, social equity, and other purposes including the tradeoffs required to achieve success.

I also served on the San Jose Parks and Recreation Commission for 6 years, including 2 years as Chair. The primary mission of this Commission was to ensure all communities in San Jose enjoyed recreational parks, trails, and other open spaces. This also involved interactions with many stakeholders to ensure a reasonable balance of our natural resources.

2. Describe your interest in serving on the North Santa Clara RCD Board of Directors.

I am very interested in ensuring Santa Clara County continues to provide a sustainable natural environment for our residents to enjoy. We are fortunate to have a robust system of creeks and streams, an invaluable groundwater basin, many world class recreational features, agricultural open space as well as a large array of plants and animals. It is incumbent upon us to maintain these assets for future generations. As a water resources professional who has worked in this County for many

years, I am very aware of the importance of our natural resources and our need to preserve them. I am also an avid user of various local and regional trails in the County and want to do my part to protect them.

3. Describe other applicable skills that you believe would help the District further its mission "to provide education and technical assistance to constituents and watershed stakeholders to sustainably manage soil, water and wildlife with the best available science".

From my many years working at Valley Water, serving on the San Jose Parks Commission and participating on various regional boards such as Bay Planning Coalition, I have accumulated an extensive knowledge base regarding Santa Clara County's natural resources. I am well positioned to provide education and technical assistance to our constituents and watershed stakeholders.

I am familiar with most environmental regulations and agencies responsible for ensuring sustainability in our County and I have honed my negotiations skills by leading some key related efforts.

Certification of Qualifications:

The qualifications for a Director are set forth in California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 9352 as follows:

- (a) Directors shall be registered voters in the state.
- (b) Except as provided in subdivision (d), directors shall (1) reside within the district and either own real property in the district or alternatively have served, pursuant to the district's rules, for two years or more as an associate director providing advisory or other assistance to the board of directors, or (2) be a designated agent of a resident landowner within the district.

1. Please initial the following indicating compliance with PRC 9352(a):

MR I am a registered voter in California.

2. Please initial at least one of the following indicating compliance with PRC 9352(b):

MR I am a real property owner residing within District. Qualifying address:

_____ I have been a NSCRCD Associate Director for two years or more providing advisory or other assistance to the Board of Directors.

_____ I am a designated agent of a resident landowner. (Attach letter from the resident landowner designating you as their agent; letter must include the qualifying property address.)

I hereby declare that I am an applicant and qualified candidate for the office of Director, and that I meet the qualifications set forth in Section 9352 of the Public Resources Code. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Print Name Melanie Richardson

Signed: Melanie Richards Signature Date: 5-9-24