



March 24, 2023

**VIA U.S. MAIL &
EMAIL**

Joseph E. Holland
County Clerk, Recorder, and Assessor and
Registrar of Voters
ATTN: Sheila Hess
P.O. Box 61510
Santa Barbara, CA 93160-1510
Email: shess@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

**Re: Request for Appointment by Board of Supervisors to Fill Vacancy of Office
of Director, Division 7, Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District**

Dear Ms. Hess:

This office represents the Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District (“District”) as District Counsel. Previously, we notified your office of the vacancy created in District 7 due to abandonment, in December of 2022. The Board of Directors voted unanimously to fill the vacancy by appointment in January of this year, pursuant to Elections Code section 1780(c).

On March 16, 2023, the Board of Directors met for a regular meeting and considered the applications of two qualified applicants to fill the vacancy. However, due to a recent vacancy in Division 1—which we notified your office about under separate cover—the number of Directors sits at four out of a total of seven. After two rounds of voting, the Board of Directors remained split evenly between the two candidates. The item was tabled and continued to a future meeting date.

On March 22, 2023, the Board of Directors met for a special meeting, and again considered the applications of the two qualified applicants to fill the vacancy. However, after discussion of the potential action, the Board remained split evenly. In light of the fact that neither applicant could secure the vote of all four Directors—required due to the number of vacancies—the Board instead voted unanimously to refer the two applicants to the Board of Supervisors for consideration and appointment, as authorized pursuant to Elections Code section 1780(f)(1). The Board of Directors voted unanimously for my office, as District Counsel, to provide this request.

Thus, enclosed herewith, please find the applications of Greg Flores and Randall Sharer, submitted in response to the District’s vacancy advertisement for the office of Director of Division 7. As stated, both applications were considered by the Board of Directors on March 16, 2023, and on March 22, 2023 during open and public meetings.

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Pursuant to Elections Code section 1780(f)(1), the Board of Supervisors has 90 days from receipt of this notice to take the requested action.

The District appreciates the support and assistance of the County Elections Division and the Board of Supervisors in this matter. We look forward to hearing from your office concerning the action taken by the Board of Supervisors in the next few months.

Should you need any additional information on this matter, please contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

ALESHIRE & WYNDER, LLP



G. Ross Trindle, III
Partner

Enclosures/Attachments: Application of Greg Flores;
 Application of Randall Sharer

GRT:mm

February 2nd

Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District
PO Box 364
Santa Maria, Ca 93458

Gentlemen

For your deliberation, I request that I be appointed to fill the vacancy on the SMVWCD Board for Division 7.

I am a decades long resident of Division 7, a SM Valley farmer for 40 years, along with being someone that's been evolved with the District for over 50 years.

I am currently the Stipulating Landowners Rep & Chairman of the Twitchell Management Authority, Vice President of the San Antonio Basin Water District, President of the San Antonio Basin GSA, a director for Preservation Inc, and numerous other water related organizations.

This is a request before now I'd never envisioned making, but with all the going ons in the Basin I believe I can be of true help to the Board.

I hope you give full consideration to this request.

Randall J Sharer