
Humboldt County Audit Committee Application



Instructions: Individuals interested in serving on the Humboldt County Audit Committee must complete this application form. Please submit this completed form along with a resume to:

Mail: Clerk of the Board
County of Humboldt
Re: Humboldt County Audit Committee
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Email: COB@co.humboldt.ca.us.

Attach more pages if necessary, but please be concise. Applications are subject to the California Public Records Act and disclosure requirements.

Name: HILARY SCHWARTZ

Address: [REDACTED] SCOTIA CA 95565

Phone: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HILARYJANE76@HOTMAIL.COM

Employer (if employed): HUMBOLDT WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Position (if employed): DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Are you applying for the Representative of a Special District or Schools? NO

Are you applying for the Representative as a Citizen Member? YES

1. Why do you want to be a member on the Audit Committee? GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING IS THE PRIMARY FOCUS OF MY CAREER. I AM VERY LUCKY TO BE EMPLOYED AS THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE FOR AN ENTERPRISE-TYPE SPECIAL PURPOSE GOVERNMENT (HWMA), WHICH HAS GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT PUBLIC FINANCE AND PUBLIC AGENCY FINANCIAL AUDITING. WHILE I HAVE ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE WITH GENERAL PURPOSE GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL AUDITS, I WOULD LOVE TO GAIN MORE DIRECT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE. AS A RESIDENT OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY, I AM A STAKEHOLDER IN THE COUNTY'S FINANCES. AS A PUBLIC FINANCE PROFESSIONAL, I BELIEVE I COULD BRING VALUABLE EXPERTISE TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE THAT WOULD ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR BOTH THE CITIZENS AND PUBLIC AGENCY OFFICIALS.

2. This appointment requires an understanding of generally accepted accounting principles and financial statements; the ability to assess the general application of such principles in connection with the accounting for estimates, accruals and reserves; knowledgeable of or have experience in preparing, auditing, analyzing or evaluating financial statements; and possess an understanding of internal controls and procedures for financial reporting. Describe how your experience and/or employment qualifies you to serve on the Audit Committee?

I HAVE OVERSEEN THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT OF THE HWMA FOR THE PAST FOUR FISCAL YEARS (2021-2022 TO PRESENT), WITH EACH ONE RESULTING IN AN UNMODIFIED OPINION. I UTILIZE MY KNOWLEDGE OF GASB AND GAAP ON A DAILY BASIS IN MY WORK, AND HAVE IMPLEMENTED NUMEROUS INTERNAL CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES TO ENHANCE FINANCIAL REPORTING. I WOULD LOVE TO CONTRIBUTE THIS KNOWLEDGE TO THE COUNTY'S AUDIT COMMITTEE.

3. Do you have a bachelor's degree in accounting or related field. Please specify.

I AM CURRENTLY IN THE THIRD YEAR OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY'S BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM WITH A CONCENTRATION IN ACCOUNTING WITH A 3.951 OVERALL GPA. I HAVE ALSO COMPLETED VARIOUS GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING TRAINING COURSES THROUGH GFOA AND CSMFO. I PLAN TO ENROLL IN THE GFOA'S CERTIFIED PUBLIC FINANCE OFFICER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM LATER THIS YEAR.

4, Describe any previous Committee (or comparable) experience and how that would assist on this Committee.

I AM A MEMBER OF THE CSDA AUDIT COMMITTEE AND THE CSDA FINANCE COMMITTEE. THESE AFFILIATIONS HAVE GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND MY KNOWLEDGE OF FINANCIAL AUDITING AND HOW AN AUDIT COMMITTEE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE AUDIT PROCESS FOR AGENCIES AND THEIR STAKEHOLDERS.

5. How would you work with other Committee members to arrive at decisions?

I BELIEVE THAT THE BEST DECISIONS ARE MADE FOLLOWING AN OPEN-MINDED AND INCLUSIVE DISCUSSION. PRIOR EXPERIENCE, EMERGING TRENDS, AND FINANCIAL RISKS MUST BE EVALUATED TO PLACE THE AUDIT IN ITS RELEVANT CONTEXT. THERE ARE MANY ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING IN PARTICULAR. DECISIONS REQUIRE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND SHOULD BE MADE IN AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE PARTICIPANTS FEEL COMFORTABLE ASKING QUESTIONS.

6. How much time would you have for this committee per month?

I AM ABLE TO ALLOCATE ABOUT 6 HOURS PER MONTH TO THIS COMMITTEE.

7. Conflict of Interest:

A. Please disclose any campaign contributions you have made over the past 3 years to campaigns for the following: Board of Supervisors, Treasurer-Tax Collector, Auditor-Controller, or the campaign of a candidate to be a member of a legislative body of any local agency that has deposited funds in the county treasury (please note that campaign contributions do not prohibit a person from serving on the committee).

I HAVE NOT MADE ANY CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS TO ANY OF THE LISTED AGENCIES OR CANDIDATES OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS.

B. Are you employed with, or employed by, any bond writers, bond counsel, security brokerages, or financial services firms with whom the county Treasurer-Tax Collector is doing business?

Yes _____ No X

C. Do you understand and agree to abide by the Conflict of Interest provision in Section V of the Charter of the Humboldt County Audit Committee?

Yes X No _____

8. Please provide three references who can speak to your qualifications and ability to serve

a. Name: ERIC KELLER-HECKMAN Title & Organization: EXEC. DIRECTOR, HWMA

Relationship to you: MY BOSS Phone: [REDACTED] email: EKELLER@HWMA.NET

b. Name: JAMIE CORSETTI Title & Organization: PRINCIPAL, JAMIE CORSETTI CPA

Relationship to you: AUDIT PREP PARTNER Phone: [REDACTED] email: JAMIE@CORSETTICPA.COM

c. Name: RICK WOOD Title & Organization: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, CSDA

Relationship to you: MENTOR Phone: ([REDACTED]) email: RWOOD@CSDA.NET

I certify the information on this application to be accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge:

Signature Hilary J. Schwartz Date 05-18-2026