

Application Form

Profile

Cheryl
First Name

A.
Middle Initial

Katz
Last Name

[Redacted]
Home Address

Suite or Apt

[Redacted]
City

[Redacted]
State

[Redacted]
Postal Code

[Redacted]
Primary Phone

[Redacted]
Email Address

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 1

Self
Employer

Science writer
Job Title

Length of Employment

14 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

1

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

27 years

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

Yes No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Fish & Wildlife Committee: Submitted

Seat Name

Member

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

Yes No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

Grinnell College

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

BA / Biology and French

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

University of Minnesota

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

MA / Science Communications

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses

Other Training A

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I am a freelance science and environmental journalist with extensive experience covering wildlife and natural resources around the world. I would like to apply my deep knowledge and concern for these issues to helping the county where I live. I am an avid outdoors person who frequently hikes, bikes, and birdwatches in Contra Costa County's beautiful open spaces, and also a sailor who appreciates the county from offshore. I want to help preserve, protect, and restore the county's invaluable natural resources while also ensuring that they benefit the county's diverse communities and needs.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

My career as a science and environmental journalist has given me extensive knowledge of the issues this committee is concerned with—including watersheds, wildlife health and habitats, native and invasive species, and the coastline. I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel widely and interact with people ranging from Inuit subsistence hunters to Icelandic puffin rescuers, enabling me to respect a variety of perspectives and learn from a variety of approaches. My reporting skills also make me an excellent researcher and communicator, while my science background helps me understand and explain complex scientific concepts.

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

Yes No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

Yes No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

Yes No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

My work and travel schedule has prevented me from volunteering until now. But as I am now cutting back on travel, I look forward to being able to serve in the community.

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

CHERYL KATZ

[REDACTED] Kensington, CA 94708
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am an award-winning science and environment journalist reporting on wildlife and natural resources, climate change mitigation and resilience, environmental justice, and other pressing environmental issues globally and locally.

Work Experience:

2010-present **Freelance journalist.** Specializing in climate change, geosciences, natural resources, biodiversity, and environmental equity. Articles have been published in *Yale Environment 360*, *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Hakai Magazine*, and *Eos Magazine*, among others.

Previous **News Survey Director.** Conducted news polls for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Sacramento Bee*, and other media. Co-authored *The Coming Age of Direct Democracy* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2007), examining the growing role of citizen initiatives in public policy. Wrote journal articles.

Staff Writer, *Orange County Register*. Covered science and demographics.

Staff Writer, *Miami Herald*. General assignment reporter.

Staff Writer, *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*. General assignment reporter.

Education:

M.A. Journalism and Mass Communications, program emphasis on science communication and public opinion, University of Minnesota.

B.A. Biology and French majors, Chemistry minor
Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA.

Skills:

- Research and information gathering
- Written and oral communication
- Interviewing
- Report writing
- Working with diverse groups and interests
- Objectivity
- Ability to understand and explain complex science