

**Directors**  
Manny Fernandez  
Pat Kite  
Anjali Lathi  
Jennifer Toy



**Officers**  
Paul R. Eldredge  
*General Manager/  
District Engineer*  
  
Karen W. Murphy  
*Attorney*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY 2024

### APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY

Please type or print clearly.

Name: ROBERT A. WIECKOWSKI Date: 6/10/2024

Position Applying For: **Union Sanitary District Board Director, Ward 3 (see Ward map)**

Are you a registered voter? Yes  No  Board Clerk will verify voter registration.

Are you a resident of Ward 3? Yes  No  How long have you lived in Ward 3? ~60 yrs

**NOTE:** This application is a public record and will be included with the applicable Board of Directors materials, posted on the District's website, and made available to the press and public. Personal data will be redacted.

This application is to fill an unscheduled vacancy on the Union Sanitary District Board of Directors. The term of this seat is from the date of appointment until results of the 2026 Primary Election have been certified. Only Ward 3 registered voters who have submitted a complete application packet by the deadline will be considered for appointment.

When submitting please include:  Application  Responses to Questionnaire

Please email completed application packets to [reginam@unionsanitary.ca.gov](mailto:reginam@unionsanitary.ca.gov)  
or mail to: Board Clerk, Union Sanitary District, 5072 Benson Road, Union City, CA 94587

**A COMPLETED AND SIGNED APPLICATION MUST BE FILED WITH THE BOARD CLERK BY:**

**MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024, at 5:00 PM**

### **BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE UNION SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Private Versus Public:** Becoming a candidate for public office means that information about you will become a matter of public record immediately. With a few exceptions, this includes any and all documents submitted to the District during the course of the application period. As such, these documents must, by law, be available to the public for inspection and/or copying. Redacted copies of submitted applications will be available on the District website.

**Interview Process:** Interviews will be scheduled for Special Board meeting(s), dates to be determined. The District Board must make an appointment by July 15, 2024, or choose to call a special election.

**Term of Office for this Unscheduled Vacancy:** The term of this seat will be from the day of appointment until results of the 2026 Primary Election have been certified.

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY 2024**

Please type or print clearly.

PERSONAL DATA			
Name: <b>ROBERT A. WIECKOWSKI</b>			
Home Phone: [REDACTED]		Cell Phone: [REDACTED]	
Email Address: [REDACTED]			
Address: [REDACTED]	City: <b>FREMONT</b>	State: <b>CA</b>	Zip: [REDACTED]

**Union Sanitary District Board of Directors**

The Union Sanitary District Board of Directors is made up of five members of the community elected by ward in Newark, Union City, and Fremont. Each Director position has a term of four years. Board elections are held biannually with the Primary Election of even numbered years, with the number of open seats being filled alternating between two and three. Board members receive compensation at the rate of \$218.99 per day of service for a maximum of six days per month as well as medical, dental, and vision benefits.

**Duties:**

- Attend Board of Directors meetings.
- Attend special meetings, workshops, committee meetings, and other meetings as scheduled.
- Actively participate and serve on various outside agencies, committees, and commissions.
- Board Members are required, by law, to complete and file a Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests disclosing various financial interests.

**Meetings:**

Regular meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the Union Sanitary District Administrative Offices Boardroom, 5072 Benson Road, Union City, California.

More information about the Union Sanitary District Board of Directors can be found on the Union Sanitary District [website](#).

Please indicate your availability for interviews to be held the following dates:

- Tuesday, June 25, 2024, beginning at 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, June 27, 2024, beginning at 4:00 p.m.
- Monday, July 8, 2024, beginning at 4:00 p.m. (if necessary)

*Civic service is a privilege and responsibility of our citizens. The value and importance of the participation of our citizens cannot be measured. Your interest in serving on the Union Sanitary District Board of Directors is greatly appreciated.*

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS VACANCY 2024

### QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Please answer the following questions and attach your responses to your application.

1. Please provide a Statement of Qualifications (250 word maximum).
2. What are the key issues you see facing the District and the communities we serve? Why do you think these are the key issues and what might be the solutions?
3. What is your vision for Union Sanitary District and how would you like it to look in 10 years?
4. Have you ever held a public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.
5. Please describe your qualifications, education, and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a Board member.
6. What has your previous involvement with the Union Sanitary District been? Please include any service organizations or community engagement you have participated in and what your role was.
7. The Board of Directors regularly meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 4:00 p.m. and has additional special meetings, committee meetings, and workshops. Board members also serve on a number of external committees for outside agency boards. Please describe any time constraints or limitations/obligations that might limit your availability for special meetings or community events.
8. Are you aware of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a Board member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?  Yes /  No *Raw*
9. Is there anything else you would like to share with the Board?

I hereby certify that all statements made in this application are true and complete. I legally reside in Union Sanitary District, Ward 3. I am 18 years of age or older and a registered voter. In compliance with State law, I understand that I will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interests upon appointment to office and annually thereafter. I understand that my application and materials will be considered a public record and thus will be available for public inspection and copying.

Robert A. Weikensh  
Applicant's Signature

June 10, 2024  
Date

1. State of Qualifications: I hold a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, and a juris doctorate from Santa Clara University School of Law. Prior to my 12 years in the State Legislature, as a member of the Fremont City Council I was assigned to various boards to represent the City. It was an honor to be a member of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, which became the Transportation Commission, and Stopwaste.org . These regional boards provided me the opportunity to review projects and collaborate with others to solve different challenges affecting a broader constituency beyond the city limits. I am proud of my reputation in the state legislature as a policy wonk and climate change budget specialist. I have demonstrated an ability to read the agenda, listen to the staff recommendations and public input, ask questions, and discuss with my colleagues' various elements of the agenda item to reach a consensus decision. I strive to keep my remarks focused on the topic and aspire to be succinct. I have done this at every level of government where I have served and have developed unique skills during the process. If appointed, I will do my best to listen to the public, staff, and my colleagues after reviewing the materials, understand their concerns and make the best decision for USD. I pride myself on the process of decision-making and serving the community which I call home.
2. As set forth in USD's public presentation on May 21, continuing the current priority of USD with the trenchless repairs across the system and informing the public about our successes is an important function of each board member. I am proud of the climate adaptation legislation I authored in 2015 and how it is being implemented across California. Helping to effectuate the Enhanced Treatment and Site Upgrade Program appears to be particularly important at this time. I would like to assist USD with other sanitation programs throughout the SF Bay in the reduction of nutrients into the bay and other methods to lessen the detrimental effects of algal blooms. These are key issues identified by USD as well as other districts throughout the state. San Jose is chilling its treated water prior to returning it to the system and this might be attractive to USD. Other districts are processing their solid waste to produce more energy, to either fuel the fleet of vehicles or processing in addition to solar energy and storage like USD. Clearly the growing amount of pharmaceuticals which pass through our customers and is now in the treatment facility is on the public's mind and the technological advancements which USD may implement are important discussions for the Board.
3. USD's annual report sets out the various programs and investments the district has committed to in recent years to serve the constituents. My first priority would be to assist in the completion and implementation. In 10 years, I would like to see ETSU completely built out and functional. New ideas are very important. Many cities and the County of Alameda are rethinking their storm drainage systems. We may see the introduction of mid level bioswale between the bay and the hillside to treat some of our storm runoff. As climate events become more intense the desirability of implements these new ideas will heighted. I would like to work collaboratively with other districts in improving the water quality of SF Bay. Climate adaptation modeling calls for government agencies to understand their watershed, as well as adjoining watershed in solving the effects of climate change. While USD's project is the largest early action nutrient removal project in SF Bay today, tomorrow's problems will bring new challenges. Clearly energy use provides a different set

of challenges. The work USD has done to date is commendable. The next generation of battery storage will be here soon, and co-generation of our biomass offers additional opportunities for USD to be the standout sanitation district in the SF Bay area.

4. California State Senator (2014-2022) Chair of the Environmental Quality Committee for four years and Chair of the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Energy, Agriculture and Transportation for six years.  
California Assemblymember (2010-2014) Chair of the Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee for two years and Chair of the Judiciary Committee for two years.  
Fremont City Council Member (2004-2010) See question 1 for relevant assignments.  
Fremont Planning Commission (2001-2004) Reviewed development projects filed with the City of Fremont. Conducted public hearings and made recommendations to Council.  
Fremont Recreation Commission (1999-2001) Reviewed recreation and park proposals from city staff and development project proponents whose plans contained a recreational amenity. Conducted public hearings and made recommendations to the Council.
5. With approximately 24 years as either an appointed or elected representative in the Tri-City area, I would bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Board of Directors as its newest member. Public funding can be puzzling and budget decisions at the state level impact all of us at the local level. Recently my public policy experience has been general and involving categorical choices of funding by the State on various public works projects affecting our environment. I was pleased to read of the State Water Board's recent \$100 million assistance to ESTU and anticipate while considering a staff recommendation for approval. I believe my experience structuring budget opportunities would be helpful when considering staff recommendations. I want to be a part of the USD team to work with my four colleagues in understanding their priorities and how we might achieve our shared goals.
6. Prior to elected office, I was the League of Women Voter's monitor at the USD public hearings. This was at a time when the League was concerned with public access and transparency at the various City Councils, School Boards and Special Districts statewide. I applied for the vacancy of Dan Wilkowsky which was filed by Tom Hadley. As the State Senator representing the District my staff and I met with USD staff on state legislative matters, as well as Board Members when they visited the Capitol.
7. Currently, I am a Board Member of the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board which holds its monthly meeting the third Wednesday of the month in Sacramento. This is my full time – day job. My assigned appeals cases are downloaded each morning at 8:00 am and I have all day, and even a couple additional days to complete them from my home office computer. I am a registered lobbyist and provide consulting services to one client, the California Metal Shredders Coalition. I usually participate in zoom meetings at various times during the week, but anticipate having to participate in face to face meetings with legislators over the next two months. I believe these meetings can be scheduled to accommodate USD special meetings or community events.
8. Yes, I am aware of the time commitments of USD and am prepared to serve without reservations.
9. I was saddened to learn of Tom Hadley's passing as he was an excellent board member and advocate for USD in our community. He was always friendly and took the time to update me

on the exciting projects and proposals at USD. I considered Tom Hadley a friend and colleague and would be honored to serve out his term of office.

Tom