



744 La Guardia Street, Building A, Salinas, CA 93905

(831) 975-7775

APPLICATION TO SERVE THE RCD OF MONTEREY COUNTY AS AN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OR DIRECTOR

DATE: 6/7/19

NAME: Jennifer Clarke

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

Requirements to be a Director (not Associate)

- 1) Are you a registered voter of the state? ___yes___
2) Are you a landowner within the District? ___yes___

If not, are you a designated agent of a District landowner, or have you served as an Associate Director for at least 2 years? _____

Name, address and phone of landowner you represent as designated agent:

Three horizontal lines for providing landowner information.

(Please attach a letter from the landowner stating that they are putting your nomination forward to serve as their representative on the Board of Directors. They should indicate why they believe you are qualified to serve in this position.)

Please review the 'Board Member Agreement' form regarding expectations of RCDMC Board Service.

Tell us something about you.

1) What is your interest in serving on the Board of Directors?

I am interested in learning more about the RCD of Monterey and disseminating information to help RCD with outreach when/where possible. I also think that I can bring a grower/shipper perspective to the RCD in regards to regulations, labor, and food safety challenges.

2) What are the most important things that you think the RCD is currently doing?

I am most familiar with the work on the Salinas River. It took a considerable effort to get back into the river to do the necessary maintenance that was long overdue. The partnership with growers, TNC, and trade organizations was a huge success for the grower community and the environment. Once completed, I witnessed the change in the landscape in the river and the increased amount of wildlife activity that occurred.

3) What are the things you most hope the RCD will do in the future?

I think there are opportunities to help educate more people in the farming community about RCD. The RCD can look to meetings that may not have had RCD participation in the past. I think that looking for ways to speak at local LGMA/food safety meetings and APMA (Agricultural Professional Management Association)/labor committee meetings can be a way to introduce the RCD to people in the HR and food safety world. These groups might seem like unlikely partners, but these are often the two groups that get tasked with a grower's sustainability initiative and can help facilitate a partnership with that grower.

4) Give information related to your background in agriculture and natural resources:

I come from a farm family in Illinois. We moved off of the farm when I was very young, but I think that the love of farming was imprinted on me during that short time. I have a B.S. degree in Fruit Science from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. For a short time after college, I worked for a small winery in Santa Ynez. Because the winery was small, I wore several hats. I continued to "wear several hats" throughout my career. I have worked for the Ag Commissioner in pesticide use enforcement, been a pest control advisor, managed food safety programs for growers, harvesters, and a shipper, and worked in labor relations while overseeing an HR department for a harvesting company that employed 500 people. Currently, I am the Executive Director for the Ca Leafy Greens Research Board. In that role, I help to direct funding for research projects related to leafy greens. The board primarily funds breeding projects looking for resistance to plant diseases and insect pests, as well as projects looking at improving water quality and IPM in leafy greens.

5) What other skills do you think you bring to the District?

I have a broad perspective of the agricultural industry and I enjoy advocating for agriculture on the Central Coast. Because of this, I hope that I can bring some different ideas and connections to the board and the RCD.

6) In your industry/field, what is one thing that you think we should know about?

I was involved in the creation of the first LGMA metrics after the e.coli outbreak in spinach in 2006. I understand the challenges growers and harvesters face when implementing food safety practices, employee training, and changing a culture. I also understand the difficulty shippers experience with

the buying community and how that trickles down to the growers and effects the decisions they make on the farm.

7) Are you aware of any direct or in-direct conflicts of interest you may have serving on the Board?
(Conflict of Interest: No director or other officer of the district shall be interested directly or indirectly in the sale of equipment, materials, or services to the district.)

No

Please also attach a list of three references from other District landowners
Thank you for your interest in serving the District.

From:
To: [Paul Robins](#)
Subject: Fwd: RCD application
Date: Thursday, June 20, 2019 3:22:35 AM

See below

Jennifer Clarke
California Leafy Greens Research Program
O|
M|
www.calgreens.org

Begin forwarded message:

From: Melissa Duflock <mduflock@gmail.com>
Date: June 19, 2019 at 6:19:57 PM CDT
To: Dirk Giannini <dgiannini@christensenandgiannini.com>
Cc: "
Subject: Re: RCD application

Hi Jennifer,

You are authorized to use my name. I don't know how to do the digital signature on my phone and will not be home until Tuesday.

Melissa

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 20, 2019, at 7:14 AM, Dirk Giannini
<dgiannini@christensenandgiannini.com> wrote:

Hi Jennifer, please find attached, Dirk's digital signature on your application.

Please let us know if you need anything more for this.

Thank you,

On behalf of Dirk Giannini:

***Crystal Cordoba
Executive Administrative Assistant
Christensen & Giannini, LLC***