



# TRUCKEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## 2024 VOTER GUIDE



**TRUCKEE™**  
Chamber of Commerce

# 2024 Truckee Election

## *Voter Guide*

**This guide includes information on local contested elections in the Truckee region. You will find responses from candidates for the Truckee Tahoe Airport District, Tahoe Forest Hospital District, and Truckee Donner Public Utility District. Candidates for the Truckee Sanitary District were invited to participate, but no responses were submitted.**

**This information is being provided to members of the Truckee Chamber of Commerce to use in preparation for casting their votes in this year's election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.**

**The Chamber of Commerce encourages its members to be informed and to research candidates and ask questions before voting.**

**Candidate forums sponsored by the Truckee Chamber, as well as CATT PAC, the Tahoe Sierra Board of Realtors, Tahoe Truckee Media, Moonshine Ink, and the Sierra Sun, will take place on Wednesday, October 2 and Thursday, October 3 from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Truckee Town Hall.**



# Important Election Dates

The state and county official Voter Information Guide will be mailed out on **September 26**.

Between **October 7 and October 29**, your ballot will be mailed to you.

The state deadline to register for this election is **October 21**. However, between **October 22 and election day (November 5)**, the Conditional Voter Registration process opens!

**October 26** is when 10 day voter centers will open

**November 2** is when 3 day voter centers will open

**NOVEMBER 5 ELECTION DAY!**

**November 12** is the last day for ballots to be received that are postmarked on or before election day.



# Voting Locations

Once you receive your ballot in the mail you can mail it, drop it at a ballot box, or bring it in person to one of the voting centers. If you lose your ballot or don't receive it, you are able to get a new ballot at one of the in person voting locations.

**All polling places (including drop boxes) close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Night, Tuesday, November 5, 2024.**

## Where to Vote in person if you live in Nevada County

### **Truckee Town Hall Prosser Room**

10183 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA 96161

Open October 26 - November 5, 2024  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. before Election Day,  
November 5, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

### **Tahoe Truckee Unified School District Board Room**

11603 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161

Open November 2 - November 5, 2024  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. before Election Day,  
November 5, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

## Where to drop your ballot if you live in Nevada County

### **Truckee Town Hall**

Outside

10183 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA 96161

24 Hours

### **Grocery Outlet**

Inside

11213 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161

7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

### **SaveMart**

Inside

11399 Deerfield Drive, Truckee, CA 96161

6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.



# Voting Locations

## Where to Vote in person if you live in Placer County

### **The Old Firehouse**

300 N. Lake Blvd, Tahoe City, 96145

Open October 26 - November 5, 2024

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. before Election Day,  
November 5, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

## Where to drop your ballot if you live in Placer County

### **Kings Beach Library**

301 Secline St, Kings Beach, CA 96143

24 Hours

### **Olympic Valley Public Service District**

305 Olympic Vly Rd, Olympic Valley, CA 96146

24 Hours

### **Tahoe Old Fire House**

300 N. Lake Blvd, Tahoe City, CA 96145

24 Hours

### **Truckee Tahoe Airport**

10356 Truckee Airport Rd, Truckee, CA 96161

24 Hours



# **Truckee Tahoe Airport District**

**Vote for Three**

## Bill Greeno



### **Why are you running for elected office?**

To serve our community.

### **What are your priorities for balancing the growth and operations of the Truckee Tahoe Airport with the environmental and noise concerns of the surrounding community?**

As a local resident and local business owner I am uniquely aware of the needs of our community. I understand the importance of the airport and its infrastructure and will see to its well being. I am also aware of the impacts the airport has on our community. These impacts come in a variety of ways. I will put safety at the top of the list. Safe airport operations are number 1. Using tax dollars from the airport for forest health and adaptability = fire safe. Third is the need for the airport to support local educational efforts, specifically Career Technical Education as it relates to educating a local workforce for our region. Finally, the noise complaints are on a downward trajectory. I would like to continue the work of the previous board to encourage and enforce noise abatement from aircraft.

**The Airport District recently partnered with local fire districts, allocating \$2M for wildfire mitigation projects. This program has received both praise and criticism regarding its alignment with the airport's primary mission. What is your perspective on this initiative?**

As I see it, the \$2M for wildfire mitigation is a great start. The next Airport Board has a great opportunity ahead of them to make this community safe from wildfire. If elected, I will see to it that this legacy continues.

**How would you ensure that the Airport District's financial resources are managed effectively to support both airport operations and community-focused initiatives?**

This question reflects the balance that is needed by Airport Directors. One must be able to understand the balance of what is available and how best to use it. If one is favored above the other balance is lost and turmoil is the result. I will work to foster an environment of communication that will ensure both the airport and the community needs are met.

**What strategies would you propose to enhance the safety and efficiency of airport operations while maintaining positive relationships with local residents and stakeholders?**

The continued participation of the board, staff, and pilots in voluntary noise abatement is important and must be nurtured. I excel at identifying issues and creative solutions to those issues. Engaging in real conversations with fellow directors, staff, pilots, and community are how this is accomplished.



## Birch Entriken



### Why are you running for elected office?

I've lived here nearly 49 years and my kids attend local schools here. I owe both my love of aviation and my professional career to the Truckee Airport. In 1977, I went to the airshow and to say it changed my life is an understatement. I was so inspired that I decided to make aviation my career. Now that I am retired I want to give back to the airport and pay it forward to our community. My goal is to bring my years of aviation expertise to the Board. Sadly, the Board has been woefully lacking in basic aviation knowledge for a number of years.

**What are your priorities for balancing the growth and operations of the Truckee Tahoe Airport with the environmental and noise concerns of the surrounding community?**

First and foremost, the Board has an obligation to invest in airport infrastructure. This does not mean uncontrolled growth. This means ensuring the airport runs safely and efficiently. To address noise concerns we should continue the outreach to pilots program that's in place, especially non-locals, to educate them on quieter arrivals and departures. Keeping the control tower fully staffed year round is essential on this front. As for environmental impact, the airport has already taken great steps with its Sustainable Aviation Fuel program. We need to keep that going and look into new alternative gas and electric solutions that are on the horizon.

**The Airport District recently partnered with local fire districts, allocating \$2M for wildfire mitigation projects. This program has received both praise and criticism regarding its alignment with the airport's primary mission. What is your perspective on this initiative?**

The airport's sizable contribution to regional fire mitigation programs is great, but it is just one piece of the puzzle. Fighting fires once they start is imperative in an emergency and every second counts. The airport can do far more to protect our community on the fire attack front.

As a long-time local,  
**BIRCH** is passionate about  
our community. He wants  
to use his years of  
aviation expertise to help  
the Truckee Tahoe  
**AIRPORT BOARD**



Birch2024.com



## Birch Entriken

### Continued

We could easily expand hangar space to allow smaller, relatively quiet tankers to be stationed in Truckee. These are quickly dispatchable and could be on a local fire scene in just 5 minutes. Right now, these tankers are stationed 35-50 minutes away. That's a huge difference when it comes to keeping a fire from getting out of control. Beyond the fire attack and fire surveillance services in place now, the airport can do more to help protect our local communities from the very real threat of a large wildfire.

### **How would you ensure that the Airport District's financial resources are managed effectively to support both airport operations and community-focused initiatives?**

Balance is the key. The airport should be investing in community-focused initiatives but they can't do it at the expense of airport operations. If the airport doesn't run efficiently, then we can't maximize it as a community asset. The airport should be further investing in STEM programs that foster a love of science and aviation. One way to do this is to build a community hangar that will allow more community members to come out and enjoy the airport. I would also like to increase scholarships given to local students pursuing careers in STEM or aviation related fields.

### **What strategies would you propose to enhance the safety and efficiency of airport operations while maintaining positive relationships with local residents and stakeholders?**

Continuing to fund the control tower is imperative to airport safety and noise abatement. It's a challenge to hire workers for part-time or seasonal jobs. If we want to ensure we have the best controllers possible, we need to offer them full time positions. My support for a community hangar will benefit everyone who lives here. The airport has the potential to serve as a STEM education hub -- a place that will create opportunities and inspire our youth while also providing a venue where the community can gather for events or in the event of a regional disaster, it can serve as an evacuation center.



## David Diamond



### Why are you running for elected office?

Last year, I asked for \$2M of the property tax we collect to form a wildfire mitigation partnership between Truckee Fire, North Tahoe Fire, Olympic Valley Fire and Northstar Fire. Thanks to unanimous support from my boardmates, wildfire mitigation projects that previously lacked funding are now underway. This is an example of the good the Airport District can do when it's in the hands of those who think about what's truly best for our entire region rather than expanding airport infrastructure, like building more hangars. I'm running for re-election to make sure our airport board retains its community focus.

### What are your priorities for balancing the growth and operations of the Truckee Tahoe Airport with the environmental and noise concerns of the surrounding community?

Our community airport must find balance with the community that supports it. Our pilot education program shows we can reduce annoyance and increase safety, while regional investments, like wildfire mitigation, are showing the greater good this district can do. I favor investments to maintain and protect current airport assets. Airport infrastructure expansions, such as building more hangars of any size for any purpose, will lead to increased operations. I don't think our community wants that. Our airport is already capable of safely and effectively meeting the aviation needs of our community, including search and rescue, EMS and fire fighting operations.

### The Airport District recently partnered with local fire districts, allocating \$2M for wildfire mitigation projects. This program has received both praise and criticism regarding its alignment with the airport's primary mission. What is your perspective on this initiative?

This partnership was my suggestion, so I'm biased. We face no threat more serious than wildfire. While co-chairing Truckee Fire's Measure-T campaign, I learned our Tahoe-Truckee fire departments have important mitigation projects that lack funding. Measure-T is great for Truckee, but we need region-wide action.

**RE-ELECT!**

Paid for by Diamond for Airport Board 2024 - FPFC1473540

# DIAMOND

## AIRPORT BOARD

- Worked to secure nearly **\$6M for wildfire mitigation** in North Tahoe and Truckee
- Spearheaded airport action on **aviation safety, noise and environment**
- Co-founded **Climate Transformation Alliance**; proposed **Airport Community Team (ACT)**; created **Coffee Talk** program

**SAFETY, COMMUNITY, RESULTS**

David flies animal rescue missions and plays in the 80s band Berlin, which he co-founded.

He has been a full-time Tahoe Truckee resident for 10 years.

See David's supporters, learn more, donate!

**Diamond2024.com**

## David Diamond

### Continued

This new partnership enables the airport district to invest in fuels reduction projects across the region. I hope to bring in other agencies to do even more. During the Caldor Fire, South Lake Tahoe was saved by an established fuel break. Ongoing wildfire mitigation projects are essential to the survival of our airport and region.

### **How would you ensure that the Airport District's financial resources are managed effectively to support both airport operations and community-focused initiatives?**

Airport operations are covered in large part by user fees, leases and FAA grants. This enables us to reinvest property tax back into the community that provides those funds. Where the airport requires tax money to function safely, we provide it. For example, we have never denied safety equipment to our control tower. Safety is paramount, so I would never hesitate on those investments. We are a unique district in that our services are not immediately beneficial to most residents. Still, we'll collect ~\$9M in property tax this year. We must always consider the entire community in our investments.

### **What strategies would you propose to enhance the safety and efficiency of airport operations while maintaining positive relationships with local residents and stakeholders?**

Only the FAA determines where and when pilots can and cannot fly, but we still have options. We're seeing progress through ongoing education that encourages pilots to make safer, community-friendly choices. We are not where I want us, but most of my fellow pilots are reasonable folks, so I'm optimistic. By increasing the direct benefit we provide the entire community, such as our wildfire mitigation partnership, we might start offsetting the impacts of airport operations. Safety and community benefit aren't mutually exclusive. We can't ever forget this because this is how we make our airport an asset for everyone.



## Greg Horvath



### **Why are you running for elected office?**

After moving into Sierra Meadows in 2021, we quickly learned about the airport's noise and safety impact. Then a friend invited me to an airport board meeting. I am concerned that the ~\$9 million in local property taxes the Airport District receives will be used to expand airport infrastructure, thereby increasing jet traffic, and reducing neighborhood safety. In the last several months, I've learned a lot, both about the great work already being done by the Board, and the risks and opportunities that lay ahead. I also got inspired to be a community advocate and run for election.

### **What are your priorities for balancing the growth and operations of the Truckee Tahoe Airport with the environmental and noise concerns of the surrounding community?**

Let's keep Truckee Airport small. The airport will grow organically regardless of Board decisions, but we don't need to encourage more jets and more operations by expanding premium services or building more executive hangars. More operations means more environmental impact, more noise, and more safety concerns. The current board has done incredible work on noise abatement measures and expanded safety protocols. I plan to continue that good work.

The Airport District recently partnered with local fire districts, allocating \$2M for wildfire mitigation projects. This program has received both praise and criticism regarding its alignment with the airport's primary mission. **What is your perspective on this initiative?**

Let's do more. The \$2 Million allocation for the wildfire mitigation projects was an incredible accomplishment. The airport board navigates a complex regulatory environment and the wildfire mitigation is a cause that directly benefits both the airport's mission and the community at large. Let's make that contribution consistent year over year, and let's grow the contribution in parallel with the growth in airport property tax income.

### **How would you ensure that the Airport District's financial resources are managed effectively to support both airport operations and community-focused initiatives?**

I plan to increase airport operations related income where practical. At the moment, the airport's budget is several million dollars more than the income it gets from landing fees, hangar rents, and other airport services - local property tax dollars bridge this budget gap. When people say our tax dollars subsidize the airport, this is what they mean. The closer the airport is to being self-sustaining financially, the more the board can maximize funding for initiatives that benefit the entire North Tahoe Truckee community like wildfire mitigation.

### **What strategies would you propose to enhance the safety and efficiency of airport operations while maintaining positive relationships with local residents and stakeholders?**

In the last several months I have met with every Airport Board Director, the General Manager, airport staff, and local pilots. Each of these groups and individuals are doing an incredible job of implementing and executing on safety programs for our airport. One of the biggest challenges for airport safety is visiting pilots. I support the ongoing safety programs put in place by the current board, such as Fly Safe, and will support the continued improvement of such programs by working closely with pilots, airport staff, and the FAA.



## Teresa O'Dette



### Why are you running for elected office?

I am a long-time local and have a deep personal belief in the obligation to serve. If re-elected, I pledge to continue to be a good steward of community taxpayers' dollars to give back smartly to drive the economy, improve safety, and enhance the quality of life for Truckee and all North Lake Tahoe communities equally.

### What are your priorities for balancing the growth and operations of the Truckee Tahoe Airport with the environmental and noise concerns of the surrounding community?

My top priority is to operate the Truckee Tahoe Airport, as I believe we need a thriving and efficient Airport to support the general aviation needs of the entire region. Airport operations contribute more than \$80 million dollars of economic impact to the region. My goal is to serve to the best of my ability and to be a good steward of the remainder of the District's allocation from property tax dollars. This allows the Board to invest and fund initiatives that improve and enhance safety, quality of life, and economic growth, and support affordable housing to the benefit of the Truckee and the North Lake Tahoe communities.

### The Airport District recently partnered with local fire districts, allocating \$2M for wildfire mitigation projects. This program has received both praise and criticism regarding its alignment with the airport's primary mission. What is your perspective on this initiative?

I support it, as it allows the Board to invest and fund initiatives that improve and enhance safety, quality of life, and economic growth and support affordable housing to the benefit of the Truckee and North Lake Tahoe communities equally. I ask myself almost daily, "How can we spend money to make us safer?"

## A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE *for the* TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT BOARD

- Giving a Voice to Truckee & North Lake Tahoe
- Balancing Smart Growth & Community Needs
- Keeping Us Safer
- Strengthening the Local Economy
- Making the Right Decisions for OUR Community



[teresa2024.com](http://teresa2024.com)

## Teresa O'Dette

**How would you ensure that the Airport District's financial resources are managed effectively to support both airport operations and community-focused initiatives?**

By listening to the needs of both the Truckee and North Lake Tahoe communities and the general aviation community (the airport's customers and stakeholders), to build consensus among the five-person Board to operate the airport efficiently and fund community initiatives and priorities with the remainder of the allocation of property tax dollars.

**What strategies would you propose to enhance the safety and efficiency of airport operations while maintaining positive relationships with local residents and stakeholders?**

I can't get anything accomplished by myself. I have to continue to build and enhance relationships in Truckee and the North Lake Tahoe communities, while building constructive and positive relationships with my fellow TTAD Board members to gain consensus to get airport operations and community initiatives funded to the betterment of the entire region.

## TRUCKEE CANDIDATE FORUMS

**Wednesday, October 2 & Thursday, October 3**

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Truckee Town Hall Council Chambers

Free and Open to the Public



Produced By:

Truckee Chamber of Commerce, CATT PAC, Tahoe Sierra Board of Realtors, Sierra Sun, Moonshine Ink, Tahoe Truckee Media



## Timothy Devine



### Why are you running for elected office?

I want to support and protect our community by providing leadership and direction. My knowledge as a pilot and business owner will be helpful to the board and the community. I know how to work with the Government and bring programs to Truckee. I was a leader in the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel. I have the skills and ability to help make the airport safer for our community and provide the direction to support and save money that we can give back to community programs.

### What are your priorities for balancing the growth and operations of the Truckee Tahoe Airport with the environmental and noise concerns of the surrounding community?

We need to bring firefighting aircraft to Truckee to protect our community. Minutes matter when fighting fires. We need to use technology to monitor and document real time noise levels and hold pilots responsible for not complying with local noise policies and procedures. Aircraft of the future are going to be electric; we need to plan for electric aircraft. We need to have an airport community center that can support STEM and local events and be used for emergency operations for our community. We need to invest in the airport so we can return dollars to the community.

### The Airport District recently partnered with local fire districts, allocating \$2M for wildfire mitigation projects. This program has received both praise and criticism regarding its alignment with the airport's primary mission. What is your perspective on this initiative?

It is a start; we cannot have enough fire protection for our community. We need to work with Cal Fire and the US Forest Service to develop a long-term strategy hosting firefighting aircraft at Truckee that can respond in minutes to fires that are in our community.

### Devine for Truckee Airport Safe & Sound for Tahoe! Lieutenant Colonel, United States Air Force (Retired)

I will bring firefighting aircraft to Truckee Airport to protect our homes and community. Minutes matter when responding to a fire in our back yard.

Tim Devine is a Pilot, a Business Owner, and a Bioenvironmental Engineer. That's how I know environmental protection is critical for our community I am a homeowner in Tahoe for the past 12 years and I am an avid skier and bicyclist...I love the outdoors.

I was a leader in the Air Force, a business leader and owner, and now it's time to give back and serve my community on the Tahoe Truckee Airport District Board. I am proud to have built a \$30 million plus business that employees 38 amazing people from all walks of life.

I will work with CalFire, U.S. Forest Service, Placer and Nevada counties to implement programs to make Truckee better able to host the aircraft that will help contain fires before they get too big.

**With my leadership, we will use technology to educate pilots and fly safer and quieter.**

**Safety – Aircraft accidents have occurred during bad weather. We need to close the airport during unsafe weather conditions.**

## Timothy Devine

### Continued

We need to use the airport as a tool for prevention and monitoring of potential developing fires and attacking small fires before they become big fires.

### **How would you ensure that the Airport District's financial resources are managed effectively to support both airport operations and community-focused initiatives?**

As a business owner, I understand finance. I will spend the time reviewing dollars spent and hold staff accountable to ensure our dollars are meeting the needs of our community and pilots. Having observed for the past year the spending, from day one when I am elected, finances will be questioned and reviewed; areas for improvement are very clear to me. We have the opportunity to better support the community with the funds available.

### **What strategies would you propose to enhance the safety and efficiency of airport operations while maintaining positive relationships with local residents and stakeholders?**

We need to have improved outreach to pilots that fly into Truckee airport before they arrive. Continuing education for all Truckee pilots based at Truckee needs to be mandated as a condition for having a hangar at the airport. We need to make sure the staff knows that they can shut down the airport during inclement weather and prevent aircraft from landing. We need to make decisions when the weather is not safe for flying and close the airport when appropriate

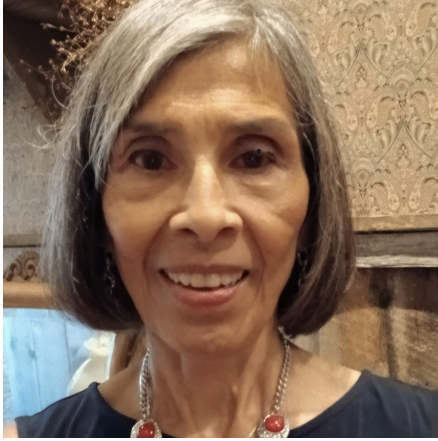




# **Tahoe Forest Hospital District**

**Vote for Two**

## Alyce Wong



### **Why are you running for elected office?**

I am seeking re-election to continue to support the health system in achieving its five year aspirational goals and to foster a culture of collaboration, accountability and transparency to ensure the health system continues delivering the exceptional care our community deserves.

### **What strategies would you implement to ensure that Tahoe Forest Hospital continues to provide high-quality healthcare services while maintaining financial stability?**

During my tenure on the Board of Directors, the health system has continually improved its Quality scores and financial positioning. The future however will bring challenges to both. I will work with the Board Directors and Staff to implement further work using Lean Management principles to eliminate waste and improve workflow. Other strategies to ensure high quality healthcare would include Continuous Improvement projects to enhance patient outcomes and efficiency in care, data analytics to track key performance indicators related to financial performance and patient care, and finally align financial goals with patient care objectives

### **How do you plan to address the healthcare needs of our growing and diverse community, including access to mental health services and care for underserved populations?**

I would work with the Board to establish methods to collect data and use it to understand the needs of various populations within the health district. Services then could be initiated to address the identified needs. Again, tracking and analyzing the data to assess performance against the goals, looking for trends, patterns, and areas where the service is excelling or falling short. I would assist the Board and staff to develop a proactive and collaborative approach to addressing mental health issues. Partnering with county and community organizations to enhance and broaden mental health services.

### **How would you work to attract and retain top medical talent in our rural area, ensuring that the hospital remains a leader in patient care?**

High Quality Healthcare services require talented and committed staff, not only medical providers but all employees. Attracting employees, especially to rural areas, takes a competitive salary and benefit package. The health system has additional benefit opportunities for employees through Workforce Housing and loan forgiveness opportunities for those with student debt. The beauty of the area, the recreational opportunities and our close knit community is a real draw. To keep talented providers, I believe it requires a supportive work environment and a feeling that one is a valued member of the organization with recognition and rewards for outstanding achievement.

### **What steps would you take to improve transparency and communication between the hospital district board, hospital staff, and the community?**

Improving transparency and communication between Board of Directors, hospital staff and the community is crucial for fostering trust, ensuring accountability and enhancing the effectiveness of healthcare initiatives. I would help to promote communication by hosting community forums or town hall meetings to discuss health issues, gather input, and address expressed concerns. I would initiate ways for stakeholders to provide feedback and regular updates on progress, challenges, and successes to all stakeholders and the community through newsletters, websites, or social media. Most importantly, I would engage in active listening during discussions to ensure all voices are heard and valued.



## Dr. Robert Darzynkiewicz



**What strategies would you implement to ensure that Tahoe Forest Hospital continues to provide high-quality healthcare services while maintaining financial stability?**  
Defining quality metrics that really relate to our community. Continuing to invest in what works but also looking for new opportunities to financially strengthen the hospital. And finally working with other community groups to build relationships to help both improve quality and cost of care.

### Why are you running for elected office?

I have experience working both in health care systems as well as a practicing physician. Building a multi-state health care practice and continuing to work in an Emergency Room has given me unique experiences to make our local hospital system ready for the future while improving our care today.

**How do you plan to address the healthcare needs of our growing and diverse community, including access to mental health services and care for underserved populations?**

Work with those that know the community. We can not do this alone nor should we. Listen to those community groups that serve those members the best and then fit in with innovation and care.

# Hi, I'm Dr. Rob!

*Working together for a healthier community.*

[drrob2024.com](http://drrob2024.com)

I'm running to serve on the Tahoe Forest Hospital District Board of Directors.

**VOTE**

### My Vision:

Improve access to your doctor and focus on your well-being.

Support for all employees in the Tahoe Forest Healthcare System.

Stronger community relationships, so we can work better together.



# DARZYNKIEWICZ

H O S P I T A L B O A R D

# Dr. Robert Darzynkiewicz

**How would you work to attract and retain top medical talent in our rural area, ensuring that the hospital remains a leader in patient care?**

Improve the well being of the great clinicians who have decided to make this place their home. If you treat our medical talent with respect and work together, word will get out that Tahoe Forest is a place of excellence to deliver care.

**What steps would you take to improve transparency and communication between the hospital district board, hospital staff, and the community?**

Defining and innovating clear, concise and constant communication from all three. If elected as a board member I hope to lead by example on how best to both communicate but also receive feedback from hospital staff and the community. Using typical modes but also leveraging social media to keep all of us up to date will be key.



**Bob Barnett**

**No response**



# **Truckee Donner Public Utility District**

**Vote for Three**

## Barney Dewey



### Why are you running for elected office?

I'm running for the Truckee Donner PUD board to lead our transition to 100% clean energy while ensuring safe, reliable water infrastructure. My focus is on enhancing fire-safe technologies, strengthening infrastructure, and improving vegetation management with Truckee Fire, the Town, and others. We must invest wisely to reduce wildfire risks, ensure reliable services, and keep rates affordable.

### Continued

By prioritizing partnerships and thoughtful planning, we can protect our environment, meet California's mandates, and maintain Truckee's safety and quality of life. Let's progress together in a way that works for our community.

### What are your priorities for ensuring reliable and sustainable energy and water services for the Truckee Donner community?

My priorities include a sensible transition to the state-required 100% clean energy for the electrical grid. I will also focus on reducing reliance on NV Energy by implementing local battery backups and solar generation for more reliable power. Additionally, I prioritize maintaining our groundwater supply, ensuring it is continuously analyzed for capacity and quality to support future growth. These efforts will secure the district's energy and water resources for the long term, balancing sustainability with reliability.

### How do you plan to address the challenges of aging infrastructure within the district, and what strategies would you use to fund necessary upgrades?

I support upgrading our electrical infrastructure with stronger poles and undergrounding utilities where feasible, particularly during other infrastructure enhancements. For water systems, I'll address leaking infrastructure in older subdivisions, prioritizing upgrades within the existing budget.

LET'S ELECT to TRUCKEE DONNER PUD

# BARNEY DEWEY

Barney is endorsed by Hardy Bullock, Anna Klovstad, Lindsay Romack, Courtney Henderson, Christa Finn, David Diamond, Paco Lindsay, Stefanie Olivieri, Pam Hobday, Ernie Grossman, Deirdre Henderson and many other Truckee community leaders and residents.



Paid for by Barney Dewey for  
TDPUD 2024 - FPPC 1470205

[ElectBarney.com](https://ElectBarney.com)

- Meet the state's 100% clean energy goals in ways that make sense for Truckee and keep rates down
- Invest in new tech to make our power grid more wildfire safe
- Partner with other agencies for smarter vegetation management, solar farms, microgrids, more

See Barney's  
goals & endorse!



## Barney Dewey

### Continued

However, unfunded state mandates may require additional grants and potential rate adjustments. Strategic, phased investments will ensure our infrastructure meets the community's needs while managing costs effectively.

### **With the increasing demand for high-speed internet, what role do you see the Truckee Donner Public Utility District playing in expanding broadband access in our community?**

The PUD has researched opportunities for high-speed broadband, but the findings were not encouraging. Competing with commercial providers, who can always undercut the PUD on rates, would be challenging. It's essential that everyone who needs broadband has access, regardless of their economic situation. Therefore, I support moving forward by gathering more information on the broadband opportunity and exploring the use of the existing PUD fiber infrastructure to bring value to the community, in a way that improves broadband quality and lowers prices for our residents.

### **How would you balance the need for affordable utility rates with the district's goals for environmental sustainability and long-term resource management?**

I propose optimizing investment timing to avoid overpaying for declining-cost technologies, implementing town-wide solar and battery systems to lower peak power costs, and incentivizing residents and businesses to install behind-the-meter solar and battery systems. These strategies will help balance affordability with environmental sustainability, ensuring long-term resource management without burdening ratepayers.





## Courtney Murrell



### **Why are you running for elected office?**

My leadership skills, board experience, and commitment to public service will bolster the Truckee Donner PUD board and my future work to: 1) Continue smart investments in power-grid reliability and resiliency, water quality, and wildfire safety; 2) Boost our community's commitment to clean, renewable energy and environmental stewardship; 3) Support high-quality, responsive customer service and rapid response utility repair; 4) Ensure fiscal responsibility to keep water and electric rates affordable.

### **What are your priorities for ensuring reliable and sustainable energy and water services for the Truckee Donner community?**

Attending Truckee Donner PUD board meetings, I have been impressed with their power reliability and rapid-response to outages since our 2022-23 record snowfall and this year's atmospheric river in early March. As your director, I will support this progressive work by prioritizing capital improvements to update power poles, transformers, power stations, and vegetation mitigation for our local power grid, while complying with law and continuing the path toward 100% clean, renewable energy sources. Capital improvements in new water tanks and updated larger water lines keep leaks at bay, water costs down and our water tasting great.

### **How do you plan to address the challenges of aging infrastructure within the district, and what strategies would you use to fund necessary upgrades?**

The Truckee Donner PUD is in solid financial shape, making smart financial decisions, and employing knowledgeable staff to execute the strategic plan, which addresses aging infrastructure. It now needs a board to continue supporting and funding this strategic plan and associated capital improvements already defined. With years of experience in operations, capital investment, budgeting, and financial oversight, I have the leadership skills and experience to bring renewed energy to our PUD.

### **With the increasing demand for high-speed internet, what role do you see the Truckee Donner Public Utility District playing in expanding broadband access in our community?**

Our Truckee Donner PUD is already laying broadband fiber to its 5 power stations and 50 water tanks across its poles and lines, with the goal of improving power and water efficiency and communication among its network. As your director, I will work with the General Manager and Communications department to educate Truckee Donner PUD customers on how best to engage Internet Service Providers, who are able to tap into this fiber line.

### **How would you balance the need for affordable utility rates with the district's goals for environmental sustainability and long-term resource management?**

The regulatory and legislative environment of California sets goals and mandates for environmental sustainability, with 100% clean energy requirements by 2045. Our Truckee Donner PUD is on track and ahead of state goals at this time. As director, I will continue our progressive trend toward carbon-free energy by supporting our local, regional and interstate partnerships and representative Associations, along with solid financial planning to keep rates affordable. Compliance within this regulatory environment has fiscal impact, and as your director I will constantly be mindful of this balance between energy and water affordability and long-term resource management.



## Dow Costa



### **Why are you running for elected office?**

Truckee Donner PUD has 3 of 5 seats open, and the need for fresh perspective could not be greater. Our Board should be an Oversight, Not a Rubber Stamp. We have large issues facing us, immediately and long-term, both require careful consideration. My wireless network experience as General Manager (I built the Sprint network in N NV and N CA, including all network, sales, marketing, strategy and management) has allowed me to develop the necessary Oversight skills to apply to the TDPUD Board.

### **What are your priorities for ensuring reliable and sustainable energy and water services for the Truckee Donner community?**

The primary objective: Provide reliable and sustainable energy and water services for our constituents – let's add at a reasonable cost. Anything else is a distraction. The focus should be on managing resources to support these goals, capital improvements for future capacity and safety, efficient use of funds for employee development and proper equipment. Since 2020, the district has implemented some of the highest rate increases Truckee has seen. Yet, when it snows, you can find the linemen in the yard digging out equipment they need to do their jobs – before they can do their jobs. Our priorities must be focused.

### **How do you plan to address the challenges of aging infrastructure within the district, and what strategies would you use to fund necessary upgrades?**

The district has put aggressive rates in place. Water: Multiple rate increases over the past few years, both base and variable rates. The district also bonded \$21M for aging infrastructure. Water is in pretty good shape. Electric: Also rate increases and bond funding, some funding remains unused. Electric faces serious capacity issues in the future, and then it will be too late to address. Rate increases and bonds are two common methods of funding. But the planning and implementation must begin now, with a long-term plan for capital improvements that will allow the future constituents reliable, sustainable, and affordable services

### **With the increasing demand for high-speed internet, what role do you see the Truckee Donner Public Utility District playing in expanding broadband access in our community?**

My whole career has been in the wireless industry (ATT, Sprint, T-Mobile, etc). I know the enormous cost of building infrastructure in support of communications systems. Broadband has long been an issue in Truckee (NextDoor?) The cost of a community wide system is extreme. As a public agency, we need to provide for as much of our community as possible. Anything less would mean great expense to all for a system that could only provide service to some... I don't like that. Understanding the community's desires, the costs, and options for strategic partnerships or grants will guide this evaluation.

### **How would you balance the need for affordable utility rates with the district's goals for environmental sustainability and long-term resource management?**

The electric side is extremely complex. Affordability and sustainability are often conflicting objectives. Our Integrated Resource Plan addresses energy procurement – renewable, sustainable, green, etc. Yet we must balance procurement with rates, reliability, employee and capital costs to ensure we maintain the overall affordability we currently enjoy. We need to agree on our goals, weigh our options, and include the community as partners in the plan. Our water resources are priceless. The district along with NorthStar CSD, Placer County Water Agency, State of California, and Town of Truckee, created legislation to ensure sustainability. Such partnerships are critical for our long-term management.



## Jeff Bender



### **Why are you running for elected office?**

We at the district have made significant positive progress the last 15+ years. And now, with our current General Manager and updated strategic plan, we have a road map for the future and pushing hard to accomplishing those community developed goals.

### **What are your priorities for ensuring reliable and sustainable energy and water services for the Truckee Donner community?**

Reliable and sustainable energy and water is one of the goals within the strategic plan. We at the district have created an Integrated Resource Plan which take a detailed look and lays out a long term plan for electrical power procurement to ensure reliability and renewable power. As for water, 2.5 million gallons of storage is coming online in 2024 along with a new pump station to ensure reliable water delivery for the entire system.

### **How do you plan to address the challenges of aging infrastructure within the district, and what strategies would you use to fund necessary upgrades?**

We are already significantly investing in both the water and electric utility infrastructure including the 2.5 million gallons of storage and the rebuilding of electrical sub-stations. A few years ago we at the district took advantage of low interest rates and borrowed money for the water utility to embark on many major infrastructure improvement projects.

### **With the increasing demand for high-speed internet, what role do you see the Truckee Donner Public Utility District playing in expanding broadband access in our community?**

The investment by the rate payers was determined to be very significant for the TDPUD to really enter into the broadband arena and the input received from the community was do the best we can with what we have. Therefore, we at the district are working closely with Plumas Sierra Telecom to utilize the TDPUD owned fiber network throughout town and continue to bring that to our customers in the most cost effective manner.

### **How would you balance the need for affordable utility rates with the district's goals for environmental sustainability and long-term resource management?**

There is a balance between affordability and renewable power. The district under my tenure has been working extremely hard to find ways to do this. We are well on our way with over 60% renewable power with projects such as: battery backup at an electrical sub-station; community large solar PV project; expansion of our power purchase contracts for wind; on the horizon to push us beyond where we are now. Additionally, this is where the Integrated Resource plan will play out and provide the roadmap to ensure we move forward in an affordable sustainable manner. here is a balance between affordability and renewable power. The district under my tenure has been working extremely hard to find ways to do this. We are well on our way with over 60% renewable power with projects such as: battery backup at an electrical sub-station; community large solar PV project; expansion of our power purchase contracts for wind; etc. to reach our goals. Additionally, this is where the Integrated Resource plan will play out and provide the roadmap to ensure we move forward in an affordable sustainable manner.



## Steve Randall



### **Why are you running for elected office?**

It is important to give back to your community. As a 39 year resident of Truckee, I have spent my adult life in service and giving back to this community. As your representative I will be the voice of the people and apply my experience to help solve complex problems while staying on budget. I believe my combination of work experience, community service, ability to work with constituents, and leadership skills makes me uniquely qualified to serve as a board member. I will be accountable, accessible and I have the time, talent and desire to make a difference.

### **What are your priorities for ensuring reliable and sustainable energy and water services for the Truckee Donner community?**

The TDPUD currently has an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), which is a long-term strategy to meet future energy demand and customer needs at the lowest cost. The TDPUD needs to review the IRP on an annual basis and make changes that incorporate new technology and strategies. Upgrades need to consider balancing the cost of renewable energy versus rate increases. There are many economic levels in the community and affordable water and electric rates always need to be considered. Wind, solar and battery technology should be looked at for efficiency and impact.

### **How do you plan to address the challenges of aging infrastructure within the district, and what strategies would you use to fund necessary upgrades?**

TDPUD has aging infrastructure that needs to be reviewed on a regular basis. A comprehensive Facility Condition Assessment Plan needs to be completed in both water and electric which identifies all infrastructure needs and the timeline for replacement. The TDPUD currently replaces 80-90 poles yearly in the 135 miles of overhead lines they maintain. TDPUD has a \$50 million budget with six months of operating reserves. A capital facility replacement and upgrade reserve fund needs to be created and maintained to dedicate funds for aging infrastructure, such that funding will always be available to deal with aging infrastructure.

### **With the increasing demand for high-speed internet, what role do you see the Truckee Donner Public Utility District playing in expanding broadband access in our community?**

TDPUD has been looking at high speed internet for over 20 years. During that time, the District has been putting internet infrastructure and fiber when they are doing street projects. Undergrounding wires costs 4-6 million dollars per mile. In order to provide broadband to the community, it would cost the District approximately \$700 million. With only 15,000 District customers, the cost to the rate payers would be astronomical. TDPUD is in the business of electric and water and that should be their main focus. As opportunities arise, looking at community enhancements should be considered and researched.

### **How would you balance the need for affordable utility rates with the district's goals for environmental sustainability and long-term resource management?**

TDPUD needs to consider affordable utility rates when looking at environmental sustainability and long-term resource management. California mandates renewable energy needs to be met in the future. Currently TDPUD is at 60% and will need to be at 100% by 2045. The State also mandates electric vehicles in the future. As an enterprise district, TDPUD does not receive property taxes. TDPUD's revenue comes solely from user rates and with a 15,000 customer base, this will put a huge burden on the TDPUD. TDPUD needs to look at creative ways to balance these mandates and keep rates affordable for our community.



**Cristobal Martinez**

**No response**

**Mark Hydar**

**No response**



# The Truckee Chamber of Commerce

Photo by Scott Thompson



**Advocate for  
Business**



**Bolster Economic  
Prosperity**



**Cultivate Community  
Connection**

## We Are The Voice of Business

The Truckee Chamber of Commerce provides a host of benefits and programs designed to assist and promote members. It's the hub of the business community, keeping members informed, educated, and connected. Businesses that join are supporting a vital organization and professional staff that is actively involved in the community, who work on behalf of our members to enhance and improve the community and business climate.

- We are the go-to source for data and information and advocate for our member's needs
- We work to ensure a strong, vibrant economy by cultivating and promoting healthy business and workforce growth.
- We continuously engage, connect, and promote the Truckee community to both residents & visitors

### Contact



530-587-8808



info@truckee.com



10065 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161