

News Release



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Monterey Bay Air Resources District Board Announces Two Appointments to the Hearing Board Monterey, California – December 1, 2022

On October 19th 2022, the Monterey Bay Air Resources District (MBARD) Board of Directors approved two appointments to the Hearing Board.



Emmett Linder

Emmett Linder will serve as a Public Member of the MBARD Hearing Board.

Linder is the Director of Mission Engagement at Driscoll's where he has been employed for over 35 years holding various senior positions. Linder was born and raised in Salinas, California, and graduated from Palma High School and Hartnell College. He earned a degree in Agricultural Business Management at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. His current board experience includes Elkhorn Slough Foundation, Natividad Medical Center Foundation, Hartnell College Foundation, and the Bruce Woolpert Algebra Academy. His past board experience includes Ag Against Hunger, Monterey County Farm Bureau, Grower Shipper Association, and the Grower Shipper Foundation.



John A. Villegas

John A. Villegas will serve as an Alternate Public Member of the MBARD Hearing Board.

Villegas is an elementary schoolteacher. He is a military veteran that served his country in the Communications and Intelligence fields in Georgia, California, and South Korea. He continued his education after leaving the military. He earned his Associates of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Hartnell College; graduating with honors, a Bachelor of Science in Justice Studies from San Jose State, and earned his teaching credential at California State University at Monterey Bay (CSUMB). Villegas served on the city of Salinas Planning Commission in 2016 and on the Salinas City Council 2016-2020; during which, several major capital projects were completed to better the community of Salinas.

The Hearing Board is a quasi-judicial panel authorized to provide relief from MBARD regulations under certain circumstances. Below are the current Hearing Board members.

Member Name	Designation	Term Expiration
Michael Guth, Chair	Attorney	April 30, 2023
Daniel Dodge, Jr.	Public Member	September 16, 2023
Vacant	Registered Engineer	Vacant
Vacant	Medical	Vacant
Emmett Linder	Public Member	October 19, 2025
John A. Villegas	Alternate Public Member	October 19, 2025

The Hearing Board meets on an as-needed basis and a quorum of three members is required to hear petitions. Members serve a three-year term with the opportunity to renew their membership.

Hearing Board applications are being accepted for two open seats: Medical Professional, and Professional Engineer. Please visit our website at <https://www.mbard.org/mbard-invites-applications-for-appointment-to-the-hearing-board> to apply or contact Sirie Thongchua, Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Boards, at (831) 718-8028 or sirie@mbard.org for more information.

Richard A. Stedman
Air Pollution Control Officer