A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

County Executive Office
1195 Third Street, Room 310 Napa, CA 94559-3082
(707) 253-4421 FAX (707) 253-4176

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE OR TASK FORCE

RECEIVED
DEC 30 2014
eAFA
COUNTY OF NAPA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT (Complete pages 1 through 3)

NOTE: Applications are public records that are subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act. Information provided by the applicant is not regarded as confidential except for the addresses and phone numbers of references and the applicant's personal information including home and work addresses, phone numbers and email address.

PLEASE NOTE THAT APPOINTEES MAY BE REQUIRED BY STATE LAW AND COUNTY CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE TO FILE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS.

For information about Form 700 Conflict of Interest Code click on this link Committee List of Form 700 Filers

*Application for Appointment to: (Name of Board, Commission, Committee or Task Force)

Napa County Resource Conservation District

*Category of membership for which you are applying:
(This information can be found on the news release announcing the opening.
You may apply for more than one category if more than one position is open.)

Board Director

*Supervisorial District in which you reside:

Napa 3

*Full Name:

Ashley Anderson Bennett

*Date:

12/30/2014

*Current Occupation: (within the last twelve (12) months)

Associate Vineyard Manager at Cain Vineyard andWinery

*Current License: (Professional or Occupational, date of issue and/or expiration including status)

Napa County Private Applicator: NAP 3510

*Education/Experience: (A resume may be attached containing this and any other information that would be helpful to the Board in evaluating your application.)

Napa College - 2000-2002 multiple lasses in viticulture and soil science
Santa Rosa JC - 2003 Integrated Pest Management class
Vassar College - 1992-1996 BA Ecology/Environmental Studies

*Community Participation: (Nature of activity and community location)

Very active in local vineyard community - see attached resume

*Other County Board/Commission/Committee on which you serve/have served:

Served on the Vit Tech board (run through the UC Davis Cooperative Extension) and on the committee to organize the Napa Grapegrowers Organic Conference

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Names, addresses and phone number of three (3) individuals familiar with your background:

*Name:

Chris Howell

*Address:

[redacted]

*City: *State: *Zip Code:

St. Helena CA 94574

*Telephone:

[redacted]

*Name:

Bob Gallagher

*Address:

[redacted]

*City: *State: *Zip Code:

Napa CA 94558

*Telephone:

[redacted]

*Name:

Stan Zervas

*Address:

[redacted]

*City: *State: *Zip Code:

Vallejo CA 94590

*Telephone:

[redacted]

Name and occupation of spouse within the last 12 months, if married (For Conflict of Interest purposes):

Matt Bennett - Stay at home father/Chef

*Please explain your reasons for wishing to serve and, in your opinion, how you feel you could contribute:

As a land manager I understand the importance of watershed management and conservation and have worked with the RCD on many projects and understand their value. I have much experience with hillside erosion control and understand the vnyd community.

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Napa County Resource Conservation District

APPLICANTS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE AN OATH OF OFFICE.

All applications will be kept on file for one year from the date of application.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

The following information is provided in confidence, but may be used by the Board of Supervisors when making the appointment, or be used by the Committee/Commission/Board/Task Force following appointment for purposes of communicating with the appointee.

*Full Name:

Ashley Anderson Bennett

*email Address:

[redacted]

*Home Address:

[redacted]

*Work Address:

[redacted]

*City: *State: *Zip Code:

Angwin CA 94508

*City: *State: *Zip Code:

St. Helena CA 94574

*Telephone:

[redacted]

*Telephone:

[redacted]

Ashley Anderson Bennett
[redacted] Angwin, CA 94508 [redacted]

Selected Professional Experience

Cain Vineyard and Winery
Associate Vineyard Manager 2005 - Present
Viticulturist 2002-2004
Vineyard Technician 1999-2001

Responsible for farming the 87 acre hillside estate vineyard on Spring Mountain. Make all farming decisions and report directly to the general manager. Direct all farming operations including pruning, irrigation, fertilization, spraying, suckering, petiole sampling, canopy management, crop thinning, pest control, weed control, erosion control, berry sampling and harvest. Responsible for payroll, hiring and firing, safety, record keeping, and compliance with local and state laws. Manage the non-vineyard property, including maintaining roads and water supply and preventing erosion. Emphasize farming for wine quality and farming for the longevity of the vineyard. Special areas of focus include:

-Sustainable Farming
Maintain a full time, permanent crew. Farm organically with emphasis on sustainability and farm 20 acres biodynamically. Utilize IPM methods including beneficial insect releases, raptor roosts, close vine monitoring and promote biodiversity with chickens, bees, and cover crops. Assisted in certifying the Cain Vineyard with Fish Friendly Farming.

-Vineyard Development
Directed or assisted in the redevelopment of over half the estate during my time at Cain. Collaborated on decisions and directed implementation of vineyard design, land preparation, plant material acquisition, and irrigation design.

-Financial Management
Create yearly expense budget and analyze year end costs. Over the past six years have cut vineyard costs by half, mostly by reducing waste and increasing efficiency.

-Grower Relations
Regularly visit the outside vineyards and work with growers to produce high quality fruit. Evaluate current and potential vineyards and work with growers and winemakers to determine harvest date.

-Community Involvement
Represent Cain as an active member of the Napa Organics Group, Napa Sustainable Winegrowing Group, Napa Grape Growers, and the Sulphur Creek Watershed Task Force. Cooperate with University researchers on projects regarding pest control, habitat management for beneficials, and Eutypa control. Judge at Napa pruning contest and was a board Member of Vit Tech in 2004 and 2005.

Charles Krug Winery, St. Helena, CA
Lab Tech
April - June 1999
Performed standard winery lab analysis. Collected samples and reported data to the lab manager and winemakers.

Florida Keys Wild Bird Center, Tavernier, FL
Intern
August - December 1998
Fed and cared for injured wild birds. Assisted in surgeries, sutured wounds, removed fish hooks, diagnosed injured birds, and performed necropsies. Gave tours of the center and educated groups about the importance of Florida's wildlife and how we can protect it.

Castle Rock Orchids, Maple Plain, MN
Grower
May 1997 - July 1998
Grower at wholesale orchid greenhouse. Duties included general care of orchids including potting, watering, fertilizing, developing new potting mixes, and pest control. Helped with sales and customer relations. Assisted in the breeding of new orchid crosses including the eponymous *Miltoniopsis* 'Lady Bashley'.

United States Peace Corps, Mauritania, Africa
Agroforestry volunteer
July 1996 - December 1996
Acted as liaison between villagers and local government, worked on desertification and garden projects to increase food production and promote sustainability, built mud ovens and educated the public about their benefits.

Education
Vassar College Poughkeepsie, NY
Bachelor of Arts in Ecology/Environmental Studies
1992 - 1996