

**Approval of the Lake Barcroft Watershed Improvement District Trustee**

§ 10.1-623. Governing body of district; trustees.

The directors of the soil and water conservation district or districts in which the watershed improvement district is situated shall be the governing body of the watershed improvement district. They may appoint, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board, three trustees who shall be owners of land within the watershed improvement district. The trustees shall exercise the administrative duties and powers delegated to them by the directors of the soil and water conservation district or districts. The trustees shall hold office at the will of the directors of the soil and water conservation district or districts and the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. The trustees shall designate a chairman and may change such designation. One of the trustees may be selected as treasurer and shall be responsible for the safekeeping of the funds of the watershed improvement district. When a watershed improvement district lies in more than one soil and water conservation district, the directors of all such districts shall act jointly as the governing body of the watershed improvement district.

**Recommended Motion:**

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board approves the appointment of Ms. Brenda Pierce as Trustee for the Lake Barcroft Watershed Improvement District to replace Mr. Gerald (Jerry) Mendenhall. This approval reflects actions taken by the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.

**Board of Directors**

Gerald O. Peters, Chairman  
Scott J. Cameron, Vice Chairman  
Christopher E. Koerner, Secretary/Treasurer  
Monica A. Billger, Director  
Adria C. Bordas, Director-Extension  
Wilfred D. Quasie-Woode,  
Executive Director



**Contact**  
703-324-1460, TTY 711  
Fax: 703-324-1421  
[ConservationDistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ConservationDistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov)

*Working for Clean Streams and Protected Natural Resources in Fairfax County*

February 28, 2023

Charles A. "Chuck" Arnason, Chair  
Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board  
859 Cellar Creek Road  
Blackstone, VA 23824

VIA: Michael Fletcher, Board and Constituent Services Liaison

Dear Mr. Arnason:

At its monthly meeting on February 28, 2023, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Gerald (Jerry) Mendenhall as a Lake Barcroft Watershed Improvement District (LBWID) Trustee, following a unanimous vote to appoint Brenda Pierce as a Trustee for the Lake Barcroft WID for a five-year term.

Several years ago, the LBWID Trustees and the Lake Barcroft Association developed a collaborative process for bringing forward nominations for LBWID Trustees. This process is reflected in the WID's *Policy for Appointment of New WID Trustees*. On October 28, 2008, the NVSWCD Board of Directors accepted this Policy, which also establishes five-year terms, after which the trustee would be eligible for reappointment.

Upon notice of Gerald (Jerry) Mendenhall's resignation, the LBWID initiated the process for nominating a new trustee. As a result, the LBWID nominated Brenda Pierce. A copy of the letter of nomination from Alan Pisarski, LBWID Trustee, Mr. Mendenhall's resignation, and Ms. Pierce's resume are attached.

In accordance with Section 10.1-623 of the Code of Virginia, we are submitting for approval by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board, the appointment of Brenda Pierce for a five-year term.

Should you have any questions, please contact Willie Woode at [Willie.woode@Fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Willie.woode@Fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-324-1430.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald Peters".

Gerald (Jerry) Peters, Chairman

cc: Alan Pisarski, Trustee, LBWID  
George McLennan, Trustee, LBWID  
Davis Grant, General Manager, LBWID  
Michael Fletcher, Board and Constituent Services Liaison, DCR  
Debbie Cross, Conservation District Coordinator, DCR



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Lake Barcroft Watershed Improvement District

**Davis Grant**  
Operations Director

3650 Boat Dock Drive  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
(703-820-1300)  
[lbwid@vacoxmail.com](mailto:lbwid@vacoxmail.com)

**Alan Pisarski**  
WID Trustee Chairman

February 8, 2023

Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District  
Willie Woode, District Administrator/Executive Director  
12055 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 905  
Fairfax, VA 22035

Re: Nomination of Brenda Pierce as LBWID Trustee

Mr. Woode,

As you were informed at the NVS&WCD Board Meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Gerald (Jerry) Mendenhall announced his intended resignation from the Lake Barcroft Board of Trustees after 13 years of service (see attached resignation letter). Mr. Mendenhall's resignation will be effective as soon a replacement has been identified and confirmed by the NVS&WCD Board of Directors and the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board.

As you may be aware, in 2003 (and updated in 2022) the Lake Barcroft Association (LBA) and the LBWID adopted an agreement that a Joint Nomination Committee (JNC) would be established when a LBWID Trustee vacancy occurs. The JNC is comprised of the two remaining LBWID trustees, and two members appointed by the LBA President. In the search for Mr. Mendenhall's replacement, the Joint JNC evaluated 10 candidates that had expressed their interest in becoming an LBWID Trustee, all of whom were very impressive. After careful deliberation the JNC unanimously selected Brenda Pierce to be confirmed as the next LBWID trustee.

Mrs. Pierce joins the WID at a crucial time where her skills, a master's degree in Geology, Chief Scientist for Geology at the US Geological Survey and related positions at NOAA and US National Park Service will be of great value to WID, the Lake Barcroft Community and those in the entire Holmes Run watershed. For the last 5 years Mrs. Pierce has served as a board member of the Lake Barcroft Association (LBA) and demonstrated exemplary leadership over that time. With that said, we request that

the NVS&WCD Board of Directors, at their February 28, 2023 Board Meeting, confirm Mrs. Pierce for the position of LBWID Trustee. And if confirmed, we further request that you advance NVS&WCD's endorsement to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board for their consideration and potential confirmation, at their March 2023 meeting. Attached you will find a detailed resume for Mrs. Pierce.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or require additional information.

Respectfully,



Alan Pisarski  
LBWID Trustee, Chairman

Brenda Pierce  
6500 Waterway Drive  
Falls Church, Virginia 22044  
703-395-6419 [brnd.prc1@gmail.com](mailto:brnd.prc1@gmail.com)

Since retiring from the Federal Government, I have started several small businesses and become a Scientific/Technical Editor and Writer with Akima, LLC. I also have been on the Board of Directors for the Lake Barcroft Association as Water Safety Chair for the last several years.

***National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - 05/2015 to 05/2016***

As Director of International Affairs at NOAA I served as the Senior Advisor on International Affairs to the NOAA Administrator and UnderSecretary of Commerce, advised senior officials on international policy issues, developed and reviewed U.S. policy positions for international negotiations, and worked with foreign counterparts to advance U.S. interests. I served as Chair of the International Affairs Council, a NOAA deliberative body to ensure communication throughout the agency and develop strategies for furthering NOAA and U.S. international commercial interests. I managed the Office of International Affairs, an office of senior international affairs specialists with expertise in highly complex and strategic international affairs issues, spanning the breadth of ocean and space including Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment, International Maritime, Climate Change, Trade, Satellites, Weather, and more. I was hired, in part, to restructure and foundationally change the Office of International Affairs and retired only after developing and presenting a complete reorganization plan for that office.

***U.S. National Park Service - 05/2014 to 05/2015***

As Deputy Associate Director for Natural Resource Stewardship and Science (NRSS) at the NPS I provided scientific leadership and management for the resource divisions - Air, Biology, Climate Change, Environmental Quality, Geology, Inventory and Monitoring, Night Sounds/Night Skies, and Water. I was responsible for strategic planning and operations, as well as coordination with other NPS Directorates, Regions, and Parks. I provided executive direction, guidance, and supervision to the NRSS Divisions that provided new scientific knowledge, interdisciplinary approaches, and methodologies to solve the air, water, biologic, physical, and geologic resource management challenges affecting the preservation and protection of natural resources in units of the NPS. I developed communications strategies and outreach products including press releases, monthly newsletters, web pages, Congressional and media responses. My effective leadership and contributions at NPS were recognized by the multiple requests to extend my (originally 120 day) detail to the organization, which started as part of the Federal Senior Executive Service Development Program, and ultimately lasted one year.

***U.S. Geological Survey - 09/2003 to 05/2014***

As Program Coordinator of the USGS Energy Resources Program I managed all scientific energy activities including research and assessment on energy resources, their potential environmental impacts, and geologic carbon sequestration. Under my leadership, we expanded our sphere of influence into multidisciplinary research, especially looking at environmental impacts of energy development, and global outreach, conducting several global resource assessments. I was responsible for: the long- and short-term strategic vision and direction of energy research; budget development, justification, and implementation; performance metrics and accountability; ensuring appropriate oversight and external review of Program science to maintain credibility and scientific integrity; communicating scientific information to non-technical audiences and being the primary liaison between scientific staff and the Administration, Congress, media, and public; serving as the Bureau's technical energy expert and communicating USGS science in a variety of venues, including Congressional testimony and briefings, and briefing members of the Administration, Federal, and non-

governmental organizations - domestic and international; developing partnerships and integrated collaborative opportunities, within and external to government.

***U.S. Geological Survey - 02/2010 to 12/2010***

As Chief Scientist for Geology, I was responsible for the scientific leadership of the USGS Geologic Discipline, a group that provided research to help save lives, promote the responsible use of resources, and support our economy. Research conducted included that done in the Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Landslides, Coastal and Marine Geology, Geologic Mapping, Energy Resources, Minerals Resources, and Laboratory Programs. I oversaw and implemented fundamental science practices such as the promotion of senior scientists, the post-doctoral and emeritus programs, and scientific response including everything from quality assurance-quality control of the laboratories to scientific support for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. I filled this role while also being Energy Resources Program Coordinator; the position ended because of the USGS reorganization. One of the key activities I managed was the strategic change of Programs within a Discipline that had been in existence for decades. In addition to managing logistical and budgetary changes, I found positions for all employees and homes for all functions without losing the critical work being done.

***U.S. Geological Survey - 10/1999 to 09/2003***

As a Research Geologist and Project Chief of the USGS National Coal Resource Assessment I oversaw the production of the first digital coal assessment of the United States. I supervised a multidisciplinary staff of geologists, GIS specialists, and technicians and formed close, collaborative relationships with State Geological Surveys, industry, and other Federal agencies to produce viable assessments and plan future work.

***U.S. Geological Survey - 10/1992 to 10/1999***

As a Research Geologist and Project Chief of the Armenia Coal Resource Project I oversaw a multi-million dollar program funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. The program's objective was to explore for and assess the quantity and quality of the coal resources of Armenia. My work as chief was multi-faceted and involved coordination and management of multi-disciplinary and multi-national teams of geologists, geochemists, resource analysts, computer specialists, and others. We computerized the Ministry of Environment; built a mobile geophysical logging station; updated and retrofitted drilling equipment; trained Armenian counterparts in computer applications, resource assessment, and English; built a state-of-the-art coal quality laboratory and instituted a quality control program; built databases of legacy and new data; studied and mapped the country's coal deposits; and conducted exploration drilling, expanding the understanding of the country's coal resources and discovering a previously unknown coal deposit. As a direct result of our efforts, the Government of Armenia, for the first time, considered how to use coal in their energy budget.

Prior to these positions, I was a research geologist at the U.S. Geological Survey, studying energy resources, their origin, quality, occurrence, and distribution. I conducted both basic and applied science on variety of energy resources.

**Education:**

Bachelors of Science Degree in Geology, 1983, George Washington University

Masters of Science Degree in Geology, 1988, George Washington University

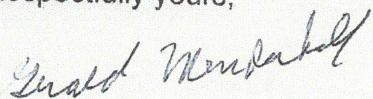
Department of Interior Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program, 01/2014-01/2015  
(SES qualified, receipt of OPM ECQ certification May 2015)

DATE: October 13, 2022  
TO: Alan Pisarski, Chairman, LBWID  
George McLennan, Trustee, LBWID  
FROM: Gerald Mendenhall  
SUBJECT: Resignation as trustee, LBWID

I am mid-way through my third term as a LBWID trustee. And I have enjoyed every minute of that time. I have particularly enjoyed the collegial atmosphere of our relationships and the support of the residents of Lake Barcroft.

It is with that positive spirit that I have concluded that it is time for me to step aside. I hereby am resigning from the LBWID board of trustees. The effective date of my resignation will be when a replacement is approved. Until then I will continue my duties and responsibilities.

Respectfully yours,



Gerald (Jerry) Mendenhall  
Trustee/Treasurer, LBWID