



# CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEMO

<b>DEPARTMENT</b> Administration	<b>PRESENTED BY</b> Sara Law - Deputy City Clerk	<b>DATE</b> January 2, 2024
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## **ITEM**

Tree Board Interviews

## **BACKGROUND**

There are six applicants for the Tree Board Commission and Salida Municipal Code Section 2-12-10 says that the Board shall consist of a minimum of three members. Staff published advertisements in the Mountain Mail for Boards and Commissions and we received applications from the following candidates interested in being on the Tree Board.

Josef Bartels  
Karen Duquette  
Jake Jacobson  
Marilyn Moore  
Michelle Putz  
Ben Tiefenbrun



**APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SALIDA  
COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS**

DATE 11/20/2023  
NAME Josef J. Bartels  
ADDRESS 521 Palmer St  
CITY Salida STATE CO ZIP 81201  
TELEPHONE # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell) 505-501-8087  
FAX # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL Josef.Bartels@gmail.com

APPLYING FOR:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment              | <input type="checkbox"/> Salida/Chaffee County Airport Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Appeals                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Art Commission               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tree Board               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability Committee            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PROST                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                         |

**Please fill out the following information about yourself and why you are applying for this position. (Attach resume or extra sheets if necessary)**

BACKGROUND AND/OR EXPERIENCE (Business and/or Personal):

On of my father's proudest achievements in life was the supervision of tree planting along California's state highways during the 1970s. Each time we go to CA to visit family, we take side trips to visit some of the trees, many of which will outlive all of us by a few generations. From a deep admiration of trees and my father's small gesture toward mitigating the environmental impact of road cuts, my love of and respect for trees only grew through teaching high school ecology in Ukraine, reading books such as The Overstory by Richard Powers, and living in Boise, Idaho.

PERSONAL AND JOB RELATED INTERESTS:

Over the past 7 years living in Boise, I've become a good friend with a man who happens to be the sustainability specialist for Boise's department of parks and recreation. Danny has shared with me his triumphs and challenges working with Boise's Community Forestry Program and their City of Trees Challenge. Housed under the City's department of parks and rec while partnering with the University of Idaho Extension Office, they've created an extensive urban forestry team facilitating volunteerism, public education, planting, maintenance, and removal of trees while identifying violations, and selling both wood and mulch. I'm excited to see how these ideas might be scaled down from a city of 200,000 to my new city of 5000 residents. He's also shared his experience with applying for and winning a share of the USDA's Urban and Community Forestry grants that are part of the Inflation Reduction Act.

REASONS FOR APPLYING:

I'm hopeful to volunteer my time to facilitate connections between stakeholders who see trees as additional cost or liability and those who benefit from increased quantity, diversity, and resiliency of urban and suburban forests. I'd like to do my part to increase the livability of our city, diversify its climate resiliency, and respect all species that depend on trees for survival.

**Thank you for applying, Salida City Council**

**Please return the completed application to:**

**City of Salida**  
**448 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 112**  
**Salida, CO 81201**  
or email to:  
[Clerk@cityofsalida.com](mailto:Clerk@cityofsalida.com)



**APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SALIDA  
COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS**

DATE 12/11/2023  
NAME Karen Duquette  
ADDRESS 245 W 4th Street  
CITY Salida STATE CO ZIP 81201  
TELEPHONE # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell) 3037173761  
FAX # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL dukegusto@yahoo.com

APPLYING FOR:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment              | <input type="checkbox"/> Salida/Chaffee County Airport Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Appeals                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Art Commission               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tree Board               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability Committee            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PROST                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                         |

**Please fill out the following information about yourself and why you are applying for this position. (Attach resume or extra sheets if necessary)**

BACKGROUND AND/OR EXPERIENCE (Business and/or Personal):

I have been a K-6 teacher for 24 years, and have also taught public speaking at the community college level for 15 years. In May of 2024, I am planning on retiring from teaching and excited for the next chapter in my life. In addition to applying for this position, I recently became a certified Water Safety Instructor at the Salida Hot Springs Pool. Once I retire, I am looking forward to becoming more involved in our Salida Community. (Please see resume for additional information on my teaching career and education).

**PERSONAL AND JOB RELATED INTERESTS:**

We purchased our home at 245 W. Street in 2013. Our home was a foreclosure home that needed a lot of tender loving care. We spent over 10 years renovating the inside of our home. During the summer of 2021, we began our landscaping project. We planted 8 trees on our property, one of which we adopted from the Adopt a Tree Program.

I am very passionate about gardening and taking care of my plants and trees. I continuously get compliments on my landscaping from random people walking by. I am proud of our home and landscaping, and would like to share my passion with our community.

If hired for this position, I am excited to share my love of trees and nature. I am also excited to be able to share my public speaking skills at counsel meetings, as well as educating our community with lectures, trainings, etc. In addition, I have strong writing skills and could write articles about the Tree Board. My goal is to help beautify Salida, and motivate others to want to do so as well.

**REASONS FOR APPLYING:**

1. Retiring from teaching (began this career in the 1990s), and I want to spend my time doing work that is meaningful to my life and my community.
2. I love Salida and my goal is to enhance its beauty/motivating others to want to do the same.
3. I want to become more involved in our community (hence why I am applying for this position and also applying as a part time swim instructor at the Salida Hot Springs.
4. I feel that my public speaking and teaching experiences will be an asset to the Tree board, as well as my ability to clearly communicate in writing.

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**[Clerk@cityofsalida.com](mailto:Clerk@cityofsalida.com)**

# Karen Duquette

## Teacher

245 W. 4th Street  
Salida, CO 81201  
303-717-3761  
dukegusto@yahoo.com

### OBJECTIVE

I will be retiring with over 25 years of teaching experience at the elementary and community college levels in May of 2024. I am looking forward to becoming more involved in the Salida Community and becoming a member of the Tree Board.

### EXPERIENCE

#### Elementary School Teacher

Jeffco School District, Lakewood, CO	2001-present
Hillsborough School District, Tampa, FL	1999-2001
Widefield School District, Widefield, CO	1998-1999

- Rated highly effective teacher
- Taught K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Grades
- 5 years remote teaching experience
- Instructional Coach and Member of Leadership Teams
- Cooperative Teacher-Supervised student interns
- Core Team Member-Opened a new Elementary School
- Facilitated Professional Trainings
- Taught and modeled lessons using best practices
- Motivated students and teachers to become self directed learners
- Analyzed data to drive instruction and create effective interventions
- Established trust and rapport with students, parents and staff members
- Effectively collaborated with team members, administrators and parents

#### Community College Adjunct Instructor

Arapahoe Community College, Littleton, CO	2002-2008
Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, FL	1999-2001
Pikes Peak Community College, Colorado Springs, CO	1998-1999
Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, FL	1994-1998

- Taught college age and adult learners to become more effective public speakers
- Created a supportive classroom environment that reduced speech anxiety
- Taught a variety of classroom types: traditional, hybrid, and fast track

## **EDUCATION**

**University of South Florida, Tampa, FL**

**1996-1998**

- M.A. Elementary Education

**Illinois State University, Normal, IL**

**1990-1992**

- M.S. Speech Communication
- Graduate Assistant

**Augustana College, Rock Island, IL**

**1986-1990**

- B.A. Business and Speech Communication
- Member of Augustana's Swim Team



**APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SALIDA  
COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS**

DATE 12/06/2023  
NAME Thomas (jake) Jacobson  
ADDRESS 10 Trailside Circle  
CITY Salida STATE CO ZIP 81201  
TELEPHONE # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell) 7192211207  
FAX # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL jakeofthetown@yahoo.com

APPLYING FOR:

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment              | <input type="checkbox"/> Salida/Chaffee County Airport Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Appeals                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Art Commission               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation Commission | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tree Board               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability Committee            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PROST                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                         |

**Please fill out the following information about yourself and why you are applying for this position. (Attach resume or extra sheets if necessary)**

BACKGROUND AND/OR EXPERIENCE (Business and/or Personal):

I have been a tree board member since 1997.



PERSONAL AND JOB RELATED INTERESTS:

REASONS FOR APPLYING:

I would like to continue to help Salida improve its urban forest.

**Thank you for applying, Salida City Council**

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[Clerk@cityofsalida.com](mailto:Clerk@cityofsalida.com)**



## APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SALIDA COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS

DATE December 8, 2023  
NAME Marilyn Moore  
ADDRESS 414 E. 2nd Street  
CITY Salida STATE CO ZIP 81201  
TELEPHONE # (home) 719-539-9195 (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
FAX # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL mmfjmoore@gmail.com

### APPLYING FOR:

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment              | <input type="checkbox"/> Salida/Chaffee County Airport Board |
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### BACKGROUND AND/OR EXPERIENCE (Business and/or Personal):

I have been a member of tree board for almost 20 years, most recently as President. Prior to moving to Salida, I was a CSU Extension Service Master Gardener for about 18 years. As such, I had extensive education in the planting, care, pruning, maintenance, and insects and diseases of trees. As a Master Gardener, I mentored Master Gardener trainees and responded to horticultural, and very often tree-related, questions from homeowners.

As a tree board member, I have been particularly involved in the Adopt-a-Tree program, in which willing homeowners agree to care for a tree planted in the city right-of-way in front of their home. I meet with each homeowner and together we select an appropriate site and species, and I instruct them on proper tree care. I choose their tree at the nursery and arrange to have it planted by a private contractor. Every May one of the adopted trees is designated the Arbor Day tree. A 4th grade class from Longfellow that has learned about Arbor Day and why we celebrate the value of trees helps to plant the tree, always great fun!

I also occasionally write tree articles for the Mountain Mail and every year submit the Tree City USA application to the Arbor Day Foundation. This year was our 35th year as a Tree City USA!

PERSONAL AND JOB RELATED INTERESTS:

I'm interested in anything that grows! I have many perennials and shrubs and a large vegetable garden, and I am the coordinator for the 2nd and I Street community garden. I have also led alpine wildflower identification hikes for GARNA.

REASONS FOR APPLYING:

I would like to continue to be involved in growing Salida's urban forest.

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**APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SALIDA  
COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS**

DATE 11/29/23  
NAME Michelle Putz  
ADDRESS 151 Mesa Circle  
CITY Salida STATE CO ZIP 81201  
TELEPHONE # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell) 970-295-9488  
FAX # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL michelleputzfood@yahoo.com

APPLYING FOR:

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|---|--|
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**BACKGROUND AND/OR EXPERIENCE (Business and/or Personal):**

I moved to Salida in 2022 from Sitka, Alaska. While there, I was twice an Assembly member for the City and Borough of Sitka. I also led the Climate Action Task Force for Sitka and helped to complete the City's first Climate Action Plan. Outside of my City work, I volunteered for and led the Sitka Global Warming Group, a group dedicated toward education and action on sustainability, greenhouse gases, and community support. We brought many speakers and led the Sitka Green Business Award effort for many years.

Professionally, I am trained as a wildlife biologist and remain in a long career with the US Forest Service where I am an environmental planner and team leader. While not currently involved, I was lucky enough to work on many Forest Service sustainable operations efforts including developing "net zero" guides for energy, waste, and fleet.

And personally, I have done a lot of research on planting trees and planted many myself. And I've worked on my own and my family's sustainability through changes in purchasing, waste, driving, heating, etc.

PERSONAL AND JOB RELATED INTERESTS:

I chose my work and my employer because of the important work the Forest Service does to allow use of natural resources in a manner that is sustainable in the long-term. I also enjoy my ability to do both technical and creative writing at work. And I love leading people.

Personally, I love animals, I enjoy gardening, and I love to do creative things, especially arts and crafts.

REASONS FOR APPLYING:

Sustainability work is a passion for me, so helping the City continue to improve on their sustainable operations would make me happy. I'd also like to meet and work with other people interested in sustainability. I also had the opportunity to talk with the Tree Board, and I like what they do and how they help the community and its citizens. Essentially, I'd like to help and helping brings me both joy and comfort.

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**APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SALIDA  
COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS**

DATE 11-19-2023  
NAME Ben Tiefenbrun  
ADDRESS 344 Park Ave  
CITY Salida STATE CO ZIP 81201  
TELEPHONE # (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
(cell) 314-604-5712  
FAX # \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL bentiefenbrun@gmail.com

APPLYING FOR:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Adjustment              | <input type="checkbox"/> Salida/Chaffee County Airport Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Appeals                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Art Commission               |
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BACKGROUND AND/OR EXPERIENCE (Business and/or Personal):

I received a bachelors degree in Forest Resource Management from the University of Missouri in 2014. My practical experiences include working throughout Missouri as a consulting forester in a variety of settings, studying deer browse and how it affects regeneration in northern forests and observing regeneration in storm damaged forests in the Missouri Ozarks. I've also worked in the forests of Chaffee County to mitigate wildfire risk.

PERSONAL AND JOB RELATED INTERESTS:

I am an avid mountain biker, skier, and boater. Observing trees and forests and how we interact with them is my true passion.

REASONS FOR APPLYING:

I would like to contribute my knowledge, experience and love of trees and forests to the Salida community for the betterment of the town and all who live there.

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