



McDonald, Mack <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>

Application: Bluff Water Works SSD

1 message

Edward M Dobson <edobson@iglide.net>

Mon, Jan 4, 2021 at 12:47 AM

To: "mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org" <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>

To: Mack McDonald, County Administrator

Re: Application of Ed Dobson for Bluff Water Works SSD

Attached is my resumé as required to supplement this letter of interest. As a Water Master for the Montana Water Court from 1989 to 1998, I held the judicial powers of the state district courts with jurisdiction limited to matters of water rights in Montana's comprehensive statewide adjudication. Generally I sat in the county court houses of the Musselshell River watershed in eastern Montana and the Bitterroot River watershed in western Montana.

My resumé ranges far and wide. My main interests are service, discourse, and education. Having read an article in The New York Times, link below, I am moved to offer service to my community. I have been a resident of Bluff and living within the BWWSSD since Year 2000.

I thank you and the County Commission for consideration.

Ed Dobson

731 E. Navajo Twins
P. O. Box 8
Bluff, UT 84512-0008
Ph: 435-672-2467

Real water or paper water ? What might burst the bubble of over-appropriation ?

Wall Street Eyes \$\$ Billions in the Colorado's Water

[https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/03/business/colorado-river-water-rights.html?](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/03/business/colorado-river-water-rights.html?referringSource=articleShare)
[referringSource=articleShare](#)

**Wall Street Eyes Billions in the Colorado's Water**

Investor interest in the river could redefine century-old rules for who controls one of the most valuable economic resources in the United States.

www.nytimes.com

RESUMÉ OF EDWARD M. DOBSON

P. O. Box 8 - Bluff, UT 84512-0008

435-672-2467 - edobson@iglide.net

Admitted to practice, now retired:

State Bar of Montana, Oct. 1987 Now Inactive (Judicial Member, 8/89-11/98)

U.S. District of Montana, Oct. 1987 – Inactive

State Bar of Colorado, May 1988 – Inactive

Navajo Nation Bar Association, May 2001 – Inactive

U. S. Tax Court, Feb. 2004 – Inactive

Court of Indian Offenses, Ute Mountain Agency, Oct. 2011 – Inactive

State Bar of Arizona, Feb. 2003 – Feb. 2005

Admitted under old AZ Supreme Court Rule which allowed legal services lawyers admitted in another state to provide free legal services in Arizona for two years.

No time limit under later rule.

Pro hac vice – per term:

U.S. Northern District of Indiana, 1988-91

U.S. Western District of Pennsylvania, 1988-92

Blackfeet Tribal Court, 1989

Education:

Juris Doctor, Univ. of Montana, 1987

Non-degree post-graduate work:

Education - Ohio Univ., 1969-71 (Guidance & Counseling)

- Univ. of No. Colorado, 1969 (Outdoor Educ.)

- Florida Atlantic Univ., 1967-68 (Early Childhood Ed.)

- Univ. of South Florida, 1967 (Early Childhood Ed.)

Radio/TV Admin. - Ohio Univ., 1965-66

Bachelor of Science, Radio/TV Admin., Oklahoma State Univ., 1965

Honors:

Montana Law Review - editorial board, 1986-87; business manager, 1986-87; staff, 1985-86.

Scribes Award - outstanding member, Montana Law Review, 1986-87.

Clancy Gordon Environmental Scholar, U. of Montana, 1986-87.

McChesney-McCarvel Memorial Scholar, Montana Trial Lawyers Association, 1985-86.

J. P. Acher Memorial Scholar, U. of Montana School of Law, 1985-86.

Employment (now retired):

Commissioner, Navajo Nation Labor Commission, 2018 – 2019. Hearing the labor dispute cases arising after administrative proceedings at the Office of Navajo Labor Relations. General application and interpretation of the Navajo Preference in Employment Act and other implicated statutes and regulations.

Managing Attorney, Monument Valley (UT) office, DNA – People's Legal Services, Inc., Jan. 2017 to Aug. 18, 2017. Congressionally funded ten-office legal services provider for eligible low-income applicants, usually Navajo. Lead DNA counsel, U.S. Tax Court. Office and positions all terminated in DNA organizational reduction in force.

Director, Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, DNA – People's Legal Services, Inc., and DNA lead counsel, U.S. Tax Court, Jan. 2014 to Dec. 2016. IRS and LSC grant-funded representation of low-income taxpayers in tax controversy cases for ten-office legal services provider org. Location: Monument Valley (UT) office, DNA – People's Legal Services, Inc.

Managing Attorney, Mexican Hat (UT) office, DNA – People's Legal Services, Inc., Nov. 2000 to Sept. 2014. Congressionally funded nine-office legal services provider for eligible low-income applicants, usually Navajo. Office closed in Sept. 2014 and relocated in Monument Valley, UT. Employed through 2014 as above.

November 1998 and November 2000 - Two years of providing volunteer and low-cost legal assistance in the public interest -- mostly through environmental organizations.

Water Master, Montana Water Court, August 1989 – November 1998. Vested with powers of district court judge in comprehensive statewide adjudication of water rights. Judicial member, State Bar of Montana.

Solo practice, 1987-1992. General litigation; civil tax defense; phased out this practice after appointment to Montana Water Court judiciary.

Faculty, Blackfeet Tribal Community College, Browning, MT, 1988-89. Taught courses in business law and mass communications.

Regional Coordinator, Montana AFL-CIO - successful Spring 1988 campaign to keep property tax ban initiatives off state ballot.

Intern, Office of the Montana Attorney General, Summer 1986. Wrote criminal appellate briefs; argued orally in Montana Supreme Court.

U. of Montana Law Faculty Research Assistant, Spring 1986. Employment discrimination.

Field Investigator, American Civil Liberties Union, Summer 1985. Investigated constitutional questions raised in foreclosure of Farmers Home Administration loans in southern Idaho.

Executive Director, Center for the Public Interest, Inc., 1981-84, part-time. Fund raising and implementation of litigation, administrative appeals, and educational programs. Emphasis: mining, water projects, wilderness, wildlife.

National Field Representative, Taxpayers Coalition Against Clinch River Breeder Reactor, 1983. Organized and conducted local press conferences and meetings of constituents with congressional members and staff around the nation. Result: breeder reactor defunded.

Northern Plains Representative, Friends of the Earth, 1972-1982. Community organizer, educator. Emphasis on coal mining, hardrock mining (1872 law), wilderness, and nuclear power. Appalachian Representative, 1970-72.

State Coordinator, Radioactive Waste, Ltd., 1980-82. Author of Initiative 84 forbidding disposal of large-quantity radioactive waste, including uranium mill tailings, in Montana. Coordinated successful 1980 signature drive and ballot campaign. Coordinated successful 1982 campaign to defeat Legislature's referendum crafted to repeal Initiative 84.

Campaign Coordinator, successful re-election of Montana State Senator Ann K. (Pat) Regan (D), 1982. Organized volunteers, strategy, logistics, and media.

Presenter, Western Wilderness Course, (Challenge/Discovery), Colorado Outward Bound School, 1978-82. Programs on conservation history and issues for students in college credit courses.

Instructor, National Outdoor Leadership School, 1976. Two biology course expeditions in Yellowstone National Park and Absaroka Mtn. Range, Wyoming. Sierra Club Foundation field investigator, surface coal mine reclamation, Great Britain and West Germany, 1971.

Residence Hall Assistant Director, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 1969-71.

Head Start Teacher, Greater Jacksonville Economic Opportunity, Florida, 1969. Teacher and aide supervisor, school for children under 6 years of age.

Head Start Teacher, Seminole Tribe of Florida, 1967-68. Teacher, aide supervisor, and parent outreach coordinator, school for children under 6 years of age, Big Cypress Seminole Reservation. Conceived and implemented first program for bilingual education of Seminole children.

Instructor, Speech Department, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 1965-66.

First job: Pinsetter, Bellmore Bowl, L.I., N.Y. 1959 (Try to find that job now.)

Personal:

Board of Directors, Bluff Animal Rescue Committee, 2019 – present. Rescue and assistance (food, vaccination, spay/neuter etc.) for stray or distressed dogs and cats in Town of Bluff and surrounding locality; assist Underdog Rescue (Moab) with the above and with canine transition to forever homes.

Board of Trustees, Glen Canyon Institute, 1997 – present. Second vice-president, 1997-2005. Secretary, 1999-2001. Organization studying potential for restoration of free-flowing Colorado River between Cataract Canyon and Grand Canyon. (Trivia: Once upon a time it was said I was the only member of any judiciary, past or present, who had rowed Cataract Canyon. Have to be others by now.)

Board of Trustees, vice-chair, Town of Bluff Service Area Board, 2013 –2015

Founding board member and first president, Friends of Cedar Mesa, 2010 – 2014. Support greater protection of archaeology/ecology on Cedar Mesa (Grand Gulch Plateau) through education, advocating for national designations (Bears Ears NM), smart local policy-making, and organizing research and volunteer service activities.

Founding member, Board of Directors, 44th Bombardment Group Veterans Association, 1994 – 1998. Secretary, 1994 – 1998. Organization dedicated to commemoration of the activities and losses of the 44th Bomb Group (H) during WW II and to providing a forum for continuing interaction of the members. (The 44th was my father's outfit.)

Board of Directors (national), The Sierra Club, July 2000 – May 2004; Executive Committee, 2002 – 2004; Secretary, 2003 – 2004;

Other Sierra Club volunteer activities (interrupted by law school and appointment to Montana judiciary):

Member since 1967.

Public Lands Grazing Committee, 2008 – present.

Wild Planet Strategy Team, 2004 – 2008.

Training Governance Committee, 2004 – 2006.

Election Review Task Force, 2004 – 2006.

Montana Chapter executive committee, 1999-2000; Secretary, 2000; Chapter delegate to Northwest Regional Conservation Committee (RCC), 2000; Chapter Vice-Chair, 1983-84.

Inspector of Elections (national), 1999.

Chair, Mining Subcommittee, Public Lands Committee (national), 1983-84.

Montana Chapter delegate to Northern Plains RCC, 1983-84.

Energy Committee (national), 1982-83.

Executive Committee, Yellowstone Basin Group, 1981-84.

Membership chair, Yellowstone Basin Group, 1981-83.

**Newsletter editor, Yellowstone Basin Group, 1981-84.
Northern Rockies Chptr delegate to Northern Plains RCC, 1981-82.
Chair, Yellowstone Basin Group, 1981-82.
Southeast Group organizer, Ohio Chapter, 1971.
South Florida organizer, Florida Group, Atlantic Chapter, 1967-68.
(Trivia: Led the first Sierra Club outing in Florida, a wet hike
through the Big Cypress Swamp, 1967.)**

Other environmental organization activities and recognition:

**Council member, Montana Wilderness Association, 1977-79, 1982-83.
MWA's Sutton Award, 1976, and Sedlack Award, 1980.**

**Founder and co-chair, Montanans for Safe Power, 1975-76.
Qualified nuclear regulatory initiative for Montana ballot requiring
legislative vote before citing nuclear power plant. Lost the election but
paved the way for successful initiative in 1978 which prohibited nuclear
power generation in Montana unless approved by popular vote.**

**Founder, Athens Ecology Group (Ohio Univ.), 1970, and chief push and chairman,
Earth Conference I, April 4-5, 1971, proceedings published by Hon. Ken Heckler
(D-WV) in Congressional Record, June 22, 1971.**

[PDF] [extensions of remarks - US Government Publishing Office](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/GPO-CRECB-1971.../GPO-CRECB-1971-pt16-4-3.pdf)

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/GPO-CRECB-1971.../GPO-CRECB-1971-pt16-4-3.pdf>

**Jun 22, 1971 - the Athens Ecology Group. The conference was held at Ohio
University, Athens,. Ohio, April 4-5, 1971, and I am pleased to submit the text of ...**



McDonald, Mack <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>

Open Seats on the Bluff Water Board

1 message

Luanne Hook <luanne@townofbluff.org>
To: mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org

Thu, Dec 31, 2020 at 12:21 PM

To: Mack McDonald, San Juan County Administrator
Kenneth Maryboy, Chair, San Juan County Commission
Bruce Adams, San Juan County Commissioner
Willie Greyeyes, San Juan County Commissioner

In response to the Public Notice, I would like to express my interest in an appointment to serve in one of the positions on the board for Bluff Water Works.

I have lived in Bluff since 1988 (the past 32 years), owning and operating Recapture Lodge and the Bluff Laundromat.

My water experience includes currently operating a WWTP (wastewater treatment plant) which serves the Lodge and laundromat, and operating our semi-public motel swimming pool and hot tub.

I am interested in our town's water system, including the storage, distribution and treatment. Since we own and operate two Bluff businesses, we consequently depend on and pay for several water taps, both commercial and residential.

For the Bluff Fire Department portion of San Juan County's fire system, I coordinate with the Sheriff's Office as the local volunteer dispatcher. Because Jim, my husband, was the fire chief for 18 years, we have a San Juan County radio base station located in the Lodge capable not only of direct communication but also of re-paging and sounding the siren for calls and emergencies.

I am also an elected member of the volunteer Bluff Town Council and believe this is a good time to also become a representative on San Juan County's Bluff Water Works (BWW).

If I am appointed, there will be a new and beneficial connection between the distribution services of Bluff Water Works, the Bluff Town Council and the Bluff Fire Department.

Thank you for your consideration,
Luanne Hook



McDonald, Mack <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>

Bluff water board

1 message

steve helgerson <stevhelgerson@hotmail.com>

Wed, Dec 30, 2020 at 4:37 PM

To: "mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org" <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>

Dear Mr McDonald, my name is Steve Helgerson and I live in Bluff and I am interested in running for a seat on the Bluff water board. My phone number is (608)632-7901 thank you for your consideration. Steve

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



McDonald, Mack <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>

Bluff Water Works Appointment

1 message

Mike/Pamela Yearous <coralsandsrv@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 22, 2020 at 12:32 PM

To: Mack McDonald <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>, bbadams@sanjuancounty.org, kmaryboy@sanjuancounty.org, williegrayeyes@sanjuancounty.org

Cc: mxpowell@frontiernet.net

Commissioners & Mr. McDonald,

Please consider me, Mike Yearous, resident and business owner of Bluff, for appointment to the Bluff Water Works SSD.

My wife and I moved to Bluff in 2018 from Colorado, purchasing Coral Sands RV Park at 94 S 6th West. We have a vested interest in the water system that provides drinking water for our personal use, as well as for our customers staying at the RV park. I am extremely interested in being a part of the decision-making and maintenance of the water system in Bluff. I bring to the table many years of experience in construction projects and operation of equipment, which will certainly be of value in this board position.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Yearous

Bluff, Utah

435-672-2232



McDonald, Mack <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>

Bluff Water Works

1 message

Brandt Hart <brandthart@hotmail.com>

Tue, Dec 22, 2020 at 8:06 AM

To: "mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org" <mmcdonald@sanjuancounty.org>, "kmaryboy@sanjuancounty.org" <kmaryboy@sanjuancounty.org>, "williegrayeyes@sanjuancounty.org" <williegrayeyes@sanjuancounty.org>, Bruce Adams <bbadams@sanjuancounty.org>

Cc: Marx Powell <mxpowell@frontiernet.net>, Steve simpson <Stevesimpson@frontiernet.net>

Commissioners & Mr. McDonald,

Please consider me, Brandt Hart, resident of Bluff, for reappointment to the Bluff Water Works SSD. I have served on this board for several years and hope to continue serving in the future.

Please also consider Steve Simpson for reappointment. He has served for many years in the capacity of treasurer on the BWW SSD and is a highly skilled and valued member of the board.

Melvin Gaines, who came to Bluff in the 1930s in the back of a wagon at the age of two, has been involved with Bluff's culinary water system for most of his long life. He is stepping down, although we will continue to seek his knowledge and wisdom regarding Bluff's water system. The county commission should take note of his long tenure and dedicated service to provide quality drinking water to the community of Bluff. Another resident, Mike Yeayous, has shown interest in filling his position. Mike has attended our meetings and would be an asset to the board and would be helpful in the maintenance of our complex water system. I hope you will appoint him to the Bluff Water Works SSD.

Thanks,
Brandt Hart
Bluff, Utah

November 24, 2020

San Juan County Commission
Kenneth Maryboy, Chairman
PO Box 9
Monticello, Utah 84535

RE: Bluff Water Works SSD

Commissioner Maryboy:

I understand that the Bluff Water Works SSD will be having Board vacancies starting January 1, 2021. The County Commission has the authority to appoint individuals to this Special District Board.

I would like to be considered for appointment to this SSD.

I was elected to the Bluff Service Area and also served on the board as Chairperson during my tenure. I retired from the US Forest Service after 30 years fighting wildland fires. After retirement, I worked part-time for Kern County Fire Department as an on-call firefighter. Since 2010, I have worked on one of the Great Basin Incident Management Teams Type II as an Air Operations Branch Director [AOBD] supervising all air assets used in managing Wildland Fires. Since 1993, I have been serving wildland fire operations in the AOBD position, supervising up to 125 people.

I managed a Wildland Fire Training Center, supervising 5 employees and a \$ 200,000 budget for over 10 years in California. In addition, I performed as a Battalion Chief for two Ranger Districts supervising 8 Fire Engines, 4 Fire Prevention Technicians during the summer fire season.

I moved into the county in 2008 working as a volunteer for Natural Bridges NM for 2 years and purchased and moved into my house in Bluff in 2010.

I would be more than willing to meet with you concerning my qualifications and desire to serve on this board.

Thank You for your time,



Westley E. Shook III
PO BOX 532
748 West Willow
Bluff UT 84512-0532
435-672-2317
wshook@charter.net

CC: Mack McDonald
San Juan County Chief Administrative Officer