

BCPUD PIPELINE



Winter 2023-2024

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Interested in learning more about the BCPUD? Attend a monthly board meeting, watch the meeting video, or read the minutes – available online and in-person.

Meetings: The BCPUD holds regular Board of Directors meetings on the third Wednesday of every month. The public is invited to attend the meetings in-person or by Zoom. Meeting agendas are uploaded to the agenda page on our website each Friday prior to a board meeting. In addition to the agenda, the public can access the board meeting materials relevant to the agenda items as well. Materials are generally uploaded 1-2 days prior to the meeting. Please go to www.bcpud.org and click on the Board Meeting Agendas link to access that page.

Video: The BCPUD uploads the monthly board meeting Zoom video to our website after every meeting. The videos can be found on the Minutes page of our website. The link to the Board Meeting Minutes page can also be found on our website.

Minutes: The BCPUD uploads copies of the minutes of each board meeting to our website once the minutes have been finalized (usually at the next board meeting).

In short, there are multiple ways that the public can attend and/or view the monthly board meetings. Please take a moment to check out our website and learn more about what's happening at the BCPUD.

Water or Sewer emergency? Please contact our office at 415-868-1224

WELCOME GEORGIA WOODS, THE BCPUD'S INCOMING GENERAL MANAGER!

The Bolinas Community Public Utility District ("BCPUD") is delighted to announce that Georgia Woods, PhD, has joined the district as the incoming General Manager. Georgia will officially assume her role as General Manager this Spring. Georgia succeeds outgoing General Manager Jennifer Blackman, who is retiring later this year. Please join us in welcoming Georgia to the district and supporting her in this key position in our organization. In the meantime, we would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit more about Georgia.

How did Georgia come to Bolinas?

Georgia's parents, Susan and Hanford Woods, met in Bolinas in the early 1970's. Susan lived in town at the time, raising her two daughters, Asia and Breath, and living close to their half-sister, Felice. Hanford was visiting Bolinas when they met – he lived in Montreal, Canada at the time. Susan, Asia and Breath subsequently moved to Montreal to join Hanford, and this is where Georgia and her sister Siena were born. Georgia, Asia and Breath spent their summers in Bolinas with Shao Thorpe (Asia and Breath's father). When Georgia was in the 5th grade, the family left Montreal and moved back to Bolinas. Georgia attended the Bolinas-Stinson Union School District for most of middle school (she attended 7th grade in Montreal) and, following her 8th grade graduation, she attended Tamalpais High School ("Tam"). Georgia's roots in Bolinas run very deep!

What is Georgia's professional background?

After graduating from Tam, Georgia attended Concordia and McGill universities in Canada before transferring to U.C. Santa Cruz to complete her undergraduate studies. She obtained a Bachelor's of Science in molecular biology and then worked as a technician in a neurobiology lab for a year before starting a PhD in Neuroscience at U.C. Davis. Georgia also met and married her husband, Mark Lucanic, while studying at Davis. Georgia and Mark lived in Vallejo while she was in the latter stages of her PhD program – she commuted to U.C. Davis from there and Mark commuted to The Buck Institute in Novato, where he worked as a staff scientist. After Georgia completed her PhD, she joined Mark at The Buck Institute to begin her postdoctoral work in neurobiology where she researched age-related neurodegenerative diseases, focusing on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. In the midst of all this, she and Mark also started their family and moved back to Bolinas; they have two children: Alora (16), a junior at Tam, and Fletcher (11), who is in the sixth grade at the Bolinas-Stinson Union School District.

Three years into her tenure at The Buck Institute, Georgia took on an academic role at Dominican University, teaching master's program courses; while there, she developed a course about the genetic treatment of neurodegenerative diseases. As a scientist, Georgia was



relatively removed from the human application of her research at The Buck Institute; although The Buck is a very collaborative and dynamic workplace, she worked on the molecular aspect of diseases, with little opportunity to interact with persons afflicted with the diseases she studied. She was very aware of the human suffering caused by these diseases, which can be truly devastating; thus, while her scientific work was challenging and fulfilling, and she genuinely enjoyed teaching graduate students, Georgia also sought out opportunities to impact people's lives in a direct and positive way. In 2016, she ran for and was elected to a seat on the Board of Trustees for the Bolinas-Stinson Union School District and has served on that Board since that time (re-elected in 2020 to a term that ends in November 2024, when she plans to step down).

What led Georgia to apply for the BCPUD General Manager position?

As a member of the school Board and as a parent in the community, Georgia was keenly aware of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the learning process (i.e., moving to remote learning for many months) and the school's ability to educate children in a community where broadband internet was virtually unavailable. Seeing a need, Georgia began working on a solution to bring broadband internet to the school community (and beyond) in Bolinas. She found a collaborator in Chloe Sladden, another school parent, and they successfully led an effort (with many helpful partners, including but not limited to the school and the County of Marin!) to locate providers willing to serve families with affordable plans (because many school families were not otherwise able to afford broadband internet service). Georgia says it was very satisfying to work on a project that was able to have a direct and immediately beneficial impact on peoples' lives. Partly due to that experience, and also at the urging of people in town who know her and her capabilities, Georgia decided to apply for the position of BCPUD General Manager. The varied nature of the issues faced by the district, the challenges ahead for our coastal community, and the opportunity to work locally and on behalf of the Bolinas community all appealed to her.

What are Georgia's interests outside of working?

In addition to hiking and spending time with her family and dog (Xena the Warrior Princess), Georgia is a passionate soccer player; she plays on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons in Bolinas (as does her husband, Mark), and also in a co-ed league over the hill. She is a big sports fan and enjoys following a variety of professional sports with her family and friends; Georgia is a fan of the San Francisco Forty-Niners and the Warriors, among others. (Editorial note: Georgia also is a supporter of the Manchester City Football Club in the English Premier League. Fortunately this topic did not arise during the hiring process as this editor is a supporter of the Liverpool Football Club). Georgia also spends a lot of time watching her kids' sports teams – her son Fletcher also is a dedicated soccer player (in addition to baseball, basketball and flag football) and her daughter Alora is returning to sports (tennis, basketball, soccer and softball) after recovering from a knee injury.

Have there been any surprises for Georgia since she started working at the BCPUD?

From the vantage point of her first two weeks on the job, Georgia says, "There have been some remarkable moments already. I come from a very different line of work, so I had no preconceived notions about the district or the General Manager position. However, I now appreciate how much the district does in Bolinas; I really had no idea how key the district's day-to-day operations are for the functioning of the town. I also have been impressed by the genuine care everyone who works for the district has for the residents. We know everyone personally! The district's Board and staff take on a lot because of those relationships — the BCPUD steps in because someone needs to and because everyone at the district cares, a lot, about the town."

