# Trinity Public Utilities District MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING August 9, 2012

Location:

Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room

Weaverville, California

Board Present:

Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves, Kelli Gant

Board Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Others Present:

Paul Hauser, James Underwood, Andy Lethbridge,

Kellie

Ambrose

# 1. President Morris called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

# 2. Approval of the Agenda order

Director Groves motioned to approve the Agenda order. With a second from Director Gant, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Richard Morris, Keith Groves, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Abstain:

None

#### 3. Consent Calendar

Director Groves motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Second by Director Owens, the Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Board Meeting July 12, 2012
- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting July 9, 2012
- c. Validate Bills of July. 2012
- d. Approve Financial Reports for June, 2012

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Richard Morris, Keith Groves, Rose Owens, Kellie Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Abstain:

None

# 4. Public Input

a. <u>Denial of Claim (This item will be discussed in Closed Session)</u>
No one from the public was in attendance to discuss this item.

#### 5. Action Items

a. <u>Items Pulled from Consent Calendar</u>
None

# b. Adopt Revised Utility Billing Delinquency, Late Payment, and Disconnections Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser explained that our current Policy is very costly for the District and that with the change we will only need to send one notice stating disconnect.

Director Groves suggested waiting another month to implement the Policy allowing Staff to notify customers during the District's routine phone calls of the Policy change. Director Groves and President Morris were concerned regarding the District following California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) guidelines, as well as any backlash we will receive from customers.

Director Gant suggested we clean up our flyer, make some changes in bold and possibly use bullets instead of script in regards to the changes, and raising our field collection fees.

After a brief discussion Director Owens motioned to approve the Utility Billing Delinquency, Late Payment, and Disconnect Policy. Seconded by Director Gant, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant, Keith Groves

Noes:

None

Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Abstain:

None

#### 6. Discussion Items

None

# 7. Reports

a. <u>Board Member Reports</u>

None

b. Committee Reports

None

# c. General Manager's Reports

# Long Canyon

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that there is a lot of interest from property owners in the Long Canyon area regarding underground line extensions. Mr. John Scott has been doing a lot of leg work and has sent a letter of support to homeowners. Mr. Hauser reviewed the letter which was printed and sent to Mr. Scott for individual mailing.

#### Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that he and President Morris participated in two conference calls regarding the Land Exchange issue. There will be a meeting with the Forest Service local area representatives.

#### Website Demonstration

Mr. Hauser reported that Peter is working on content for the website.

#### Community Choice Aggregation

Mr. Hauser reported that Trinity County Supervisor Wendy Otto is still heading up the Community Choice Aggregation effort, however she is not certain who will be working on this after her term expires. On

October 2, 2012 the Board of Supervisors will meet, Mr. Hauser and Supervisor Otto will give a presentation at this meeting.

# Disaster Recovery

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that the District may be receiving close to \$150,000 in grant money from the County for mitigating forest danger and thinning fire areas. Plans are to trim the 60 kV line in the Hyampom area, and if there are enough funds include Buckhorn as well.

# July 26 DOE Workshop Update

Mr. Hauser and President Morris attended the Department of Energy meeting regarding Secretary Chu's Memo. Mr. Hauser stated that there was a lot of discussion in regards to wind and solar renewable energy. Mr. Hauser reported that President Morris, who had not intended to speak, gave a very moving and heartfelt speech concerning the impact this will have on our small community.

Mr. Hauser attended a meeting the following morning and was approached by many people stating that President Morris's comments were very moving and effective.

# Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reported multiple outages in Mountain View Estates in Lewiston, the first outage was caused by a bird. The rest of the outages occurred due to problems with the 60 kV fuses. Staff has contacted Western Area Power Administration and the District will upgrade and increase fuse size to protect the transformer bank, and to prevent future outages.

#### Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser reported that things have changed and that the District will not be able to obtain ownership. Ownership would put the District in a stronger position to renew the Lease of Power Privilege. Mr. Hauser will seek out more information from City of Redding (Redding) regarding another utility possibly buying the Project.

#### 8. Communications Received

# a. Young Family Ranch Thank You Correspondence

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that we received a nice letter from the Young Family Ranch regarding the tree removal the District completed.

# 9. Meetings and/or Workshops

a. NCPA Annual Conference

Monterey, CA

September 19-21

Mr. Hauser will be attending this Conference along with Director Ludden and possibly Director Owens.

Andy Lethbridge, and Kellie Ambrose departed at 3:08 p.m.

#### 10. Closed Session

Director Owens, motioned to go back into Closed Session at 3:08 p.m., second by Director Gant, the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
One Potential Case
McColm vs. PG&E, et al

Director Groves recused himself from item 10(b) and departed at 3:30 p.m.

b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code § 54956.95
 Liability Claims
 Coffee Creek Fire Station

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 3:45 p.m. President Morris reported that the following actions were taken during Closed Session:

- a. Nothing to Report.
- b. The Board denied the Coffee Creek Fire Station Claim.

# 11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Gant, second by Director Owens, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Richard L. Morris, President

ATTEST:

Thomas J. Lѱdden, Clerk