Trinity Public Utilities District MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING April 4, 2013

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, Andy Lethbridge, Julie Catanese, James Underwood,

Kellie Ambrose, Karen Palmer

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, Rose Owens, Keith Groves, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Abstain:

None

3. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting February 14, 2013
- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting February 4, 2013
- c. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting March 4, 2013
- d. Validate Bills of February, 2013
- e. Validate Bills of March, 2013
- f. Approve Financial Reports for January, 2013
- g. Approve Financial Reports for February, 2013
- h. Validate Payment of Claim

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Aves:

Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Abstain:

None

4. Public Input

a. None

5. Action Items

a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

None

b. Award Bid 13-B1, Distribution Transformers

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser informed the Board that in calculating the cost, it is assumed that transformers have a thirty year life.

Mr. Hauser also mentioned that by bidding out the transformer purchase for an extended time it provides the District; 1) An opportunity to purchase transformers when they are needed, and 2) A cost savings because it alleviates having to individually bid out transformers when they are needed.

After a brief discussion Director Owens motioned to award Bid Number 13-B1, Annual Transformer Purchase's to General Pacific Incorporated and authorize the General Manager to sign the proposed eighteen month Contract. Seconded by Director Gant, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Abstain:

None

c. Approve Declaration of Surplus Vehicles

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser stated that to determine the minimum bid, Staff will perform research to find the low blue book value for each of the vehicles.

After a brief discussion, Director Gant motioned to approve declaration of the two 2005 Dodge pickups and the 2003 Ford F-550 as surplus to the District's needs, and to allow the General Manager to proceed with disposal of the vehicles pursuant to the District's Policy. Seconded by Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Aves:

Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

Thomas Ludden

Abstain:

None

6. Discussion items

a. Lewiston Hydroelectric Project

Mr. Hauser informed the Board about the technical committee meeting which will be held tomorrow. The Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) is going to discuss the Lewiston Project and propose splitting the cost 79/21 with the District. Mr. Hauser stated that the Bureau is requesting that the other customers pay the 21% to defer their costs.

7. Reports

a. Board Member Reports

Director Gant reported that she attended the TAMWG meeting. At the meeting there was discussion regarding the fall flows. Director Gant requested that District's staff draft a letter for the Board's review at the May Board meeting. She suggested that maybe the District could request that California Municipal Utilities Association and City of Redding also send letters.

President Morris expressed his concern that the District customers do not understand how the flows impact their electric rates when more water is being diverted down the river. Mr. Hauser stated that this is something that could be placed on the Districts new Website when it is up and running.

Director Gant informed the Board that the General Manager for Weaverville Community Services District is hosting a meeting to discuss the North Coast Water Plan. This meeting will be April 17th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the District's Community Room.

b. Committee Reports

None

c. General Manager's Reports

Long Canyon Project

Mr. Hauser reported that there is a meeting scheduled for April 27th. He requested that Mr. Underwood review the District's Long Term Financing Agreement prior to this meeting so he can provide it to the property owners.

Mr. Hauser reminded the Board of the possibility that there are some property owners who may not support this project. He also mentioned that Mr. Scott is confident that most of the property owners will support this.

Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reviewed with the Board of the meetings that were held in Washington DC regarding the land exchange. Mr. Hauser stated that the District is cooperating with the Forest Service and so far we have been providing them everything they have requested.

Website

Mr. Hauser mentioned to the Board that previously when a customer paid their electric bill on-line through their bank there was a five to seven day delay before the District received the funds. This delay was because the District was unable to receive the payment electronically, so the bank had to mail a check. Recently the District has initiated accepting on-line banking payments electronically which has shortened the delay to a minimum of one day.

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the District's software company originally told Staff that we could implement the Smarthub Program by the end of May. This program would allow a customer the ability to view and pay their bills through the District's Website. This date has now been pushed to October. Ms. Palmer is in discussions with the software company in an attempt move the implementation closer to the original date provided.

Mr. Hauser also mentioned that Ms. Palmer is continuing to provide information to Mr. Griggs for inclusion on the Website.

Power Outages

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the largest outage since the last meeting occurred when one of the contract tree trimming crewmembers dropped a large tree branch on our power line. The employee no longer works for the company.

The only other significant outage was caused by a ringtail cat climbing onto Westerns conductor at the dam again. Western is looking into what type of protection can be installed to alleviate this from happening again.

MCHD Line of Credit

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that the hospital has paid the District back in full. Mr. Hauser also reported that he has met with Ms. Claire Kuczkowski, the new Administrator at the Hospital, and is very impressed with her knowledge of the hospital.

Mr. Hauser also mentioned that Ms. Kuczkowski feels that the Hospital may still be on track to obtain the \$1.9 million grant.

Not on the Agenda

Western's New CEO

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Mark Gabriel is the new CEO for Western. Mr. Hauser mentioned that he does not know much about Mr. Gabriel.

8. Communications Received

a. None

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

a. CMUA Annual Conference

Loews Coronado

April 9-11, 2013

Mr. Hauser stated that all travel arrangements have been made for this conference.

b. NWPPA Annual Conference

Bellevue, WA

May 19-23, 2013

Mr. Hauser mentioned that President Morris is slated to be the NWPPA President in three years. He stated that if any Board Members are interested in attending the conference to please let Ms. Palmer know as soon as possible so she can make the travel arrangements.

c. APPA National Conference

Nashville, TN

June 14-19, 2013

Mr. Hauser stated that if any Board Members are interested in attending to please let Ms. Palmer know. Director Gant stated that the conference looks like it is geared more for General Manager's attendance instead of Board Members.

10. Closed Session

Director Owens motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:15 p.m., seconded by Director Gant, the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9(b)
 Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation
 One Potential Case
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9(a)
 Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation
 McColm vs. PG&E, et al
 Trinity County Superior Court Case No. 10CV065
- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6
 Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

General Manager

Employee Organization:

Trinity Public Utilities District

Employees' Association

Julie Catanese, Kellie Ambrose, Andy Lethbridge and Karen Palmer departed at 3:16 p.m.

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 4:34 p.m. President Morris reported that the following action was taken during Closed Session:

- a. No Action Taken
- b. No Action Taken
- c. The Board authorized the General Manager to offer the Trinity Public Utilities District Employees' Association a Rubber Gloving Incentive of 3% July 1, 2013 and another 3% January 1, 2014. This increase is to be over and above the calculated Cola increase the linemen receive on July 1, 2013 referred to in the MOU.

11. Public Input

a. None

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Groves, second by Director Owens, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Richard L. Morris, President

Attest:

Thomas J. Ludden, Clerk

5 of 5