

Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 11, 2013

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room
Weaverville, California
Board Present: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Keith Groves, Kelli Gant
Board Absent: Rose Owens
Others Present: Paul Hauser, Julie Catanese, James Underwood, Andy Lethbridge, Karen Palmer, Kellie Ambrose

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

2. Approval of the Agenda order

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

Ayes: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Keith Groves
Noes: None
Absent: Rose Owens
Abstain: None

3. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting June 13, 2013
- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting June 3, 2013
- c. Validate Bills of June, 2013
- d. Approve Financial Reports for May, 2013
- e. Award Bid 13-B2, Purchase of 25kV Underground Primary Conductor

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Keith Groves
Noes: None
Absent: Rose Owens
Abstain: None

4. Public Input

- a. None

5. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar
None

6. Discussion Items

- a. None

7. Reports

a. General Manager's Reports

- WECC Meeting

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he attended the Western Electric Coordinating Council (WECC) meeting. He provided the Board with a brief history of WECC and its evolution. The District already pays a membership fee through our Western payments. There is a push to increase the utilities attendance at these meetings to improve the governance of WECC.

- Long Canyon Project

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that the District is extremely close to having an easement with Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI). He also explained that District's Legal Counsel will be looking into the possibility of utilizing the road easement instead of surveying individual easements from each land owner. There was discussion regarding the history of the road easement and the approximate time frame to begin construction of a power line. There was also discussion regarding ordering the net meters for the residences with alternative energy sources.

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser explained to the Board that he and President Morris had an opportunity to visit with Congressman Huffman and discuss the land exchange. Mr. Hauser also stated that he has had a conversation with Susan Stohr recently and she feels the legislation is moving forward.

Mr. Hauser also discussed with the Board the Stewardship Contracting Bill. There is movement to have a small business set aside in this bill, which will assist the local mill.

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Mr. Dave Myers from the Beaverhead Montana/Idaho USFS has replaced Sharron Haywood. The Board directed Mr. Hauser to schedule a meeting with Mr. Myers.

- District Website

Mr. Hauser stated that the Website is continuing to move forward. Ms. Palmer informed the Board that the dates for implementation of the customer's ability to view and pay their bill on-line are still on track for August 22nd.

Mr. Hauser stated that most of the information has been passed on to the Website designer. There was discussion regarding how Staff planned on advertising the new Website. There was also discussion regarding some of the District Policies that Staff would like to bring to the Board for revision after the website is up and running.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the District had several outages due to the storm on July 3rd. A portion of Weaverville, including the Hospital was without power for approximately three to twelve hours. The hardest hit areas were Junction City and Douglas City. Hayfork and a large portion of Douglas City were without power for approximately ten hours due to damage on the 60 kV line between Weaverville and Douglas City. Junction City was without power for approximately eighteen hours. And a small portion of Douglas City was finally restored after twenty-one to twenty-four hours.

There were also a couple of smaller outages that were the result of trees. Both of them lasted a couple of hours. One affected Canyon Creek area and the other was the area around Buckhorn.

- Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser reported that the District is still working on the written agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation.

- BANC Meeting

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he did not attend the BANC meeting because it was during the WECC meeting. The agenda consisted of voting in the District as a member. The vote was unanimous to accept the District's request to be a member.

Not on the Agenda

- Retirement Announcement

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Debbie Frank has announced her plans to retire on June 30, 2014. He stated that Staff has been discussing her replacement and would like to handle the process in house.

- b. Board Member Reports

Director Gant stated that she attended the forest tour with Congressman Huffman. There were discussions regarding economic development, broadband, special use permits, agriculture, and forest plantations. There was also discussion regarding Sierra Pacific Industries burning the slash from logging and clearing underbrush instead of selling it to a Biomass Plant.

Director Groves suggested that Staff begin to contact real estate offices and place the 150 acres in Van Duzen on the market. The District's Legal Counsel will review the surplus property laws prior to this contact.

Director Gant stated that she attended the Energy Summit a couple of weeks ago. She stated that former Secretary of Energy Chu was a speaker at the Summit. He is now a professor at Stanford.

- c. Committee Reports
None

8. Communications Received

- a. None

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. None

10. Closed Session

Director Ludden motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:20 p.m., second 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

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 4:00 p.m. President Morris reported that there was no action taken during Closed Session.


11. Public Input

- a. None

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Groves, second by Director Ludden, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 4:03 p.m.


Richard Morris, President

ATTEST: 
Thomas J. Ludden, Clerk