

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
November 14, 2013**

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

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

2. Approval of the Agenda order

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

Ayes: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves
Noes: None
Absent: Kellie Gant
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 October 10, 2013
- b. Approve Minutes of the Continued Board Meeting October 15, 2103
- c. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting September 30, 2013
- d. Validate Bills of October, 2013
- e. Approve Financial Reports for September, 2013

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

4. Public Input

- a. Mr. Stan Oppegaurd from Mountain Communities Healthcare District

President Morris welcomed Mr. Oppegaurd to the meeting and stated that it is a pleasure to have him back as the CEO of Mountain Communities Healthcare District.

Mr. Oppegaurd provided the Board an update on hospital operations including the progress on the roof replacement, heating and air conditioning replacement, and an overview of accomplishments.

Mr. Oppegaurd departed at 2:30 p.m.

5. Action Items

a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

None

b. Consider Altering the Heat Pump Rebate

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board.

After a brief discussion regarding customers who convert their wood heat to a heat pump system, Director Ludden motioned to maintain the current Electric Heat Pump Rebate Policy. Seconded by Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens

Noes: None

Absent: Kelli Gant

Abstain: Keith Groves

c. Consider Altering Installment Payments for Line Extensions Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser mentioned to the Board that customers are informed of the ability to borrow money from the District to pay for their line extension.

Mr. Lethbridge reminded the Board that Staff is required to bring long line extensions to the Board for approval.

After a brief discussion, Director Ludden motioned to revise the Installment Payments for Line Extensions Policy to allow the ability to finance the entire cost of the line extension. This would include the cost for the District to hire a contractor to perform the work that is the customers responsibility. Seconded by Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves

Noes: None

Absent: Kelli Gant

Abstain: None

d. Approve Hiring a Part-Time Clerk I

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board.

The Board expressed their desire to make sure that the District is in compliance with the Affordable Healthcare Act's definition of part-time employment. There was also a brief discussion on the hiring process that will take place in-house.

After a brief discussion Director Ludden motioned to approve hiring a part-time Clerk I to begin employment no sooner than January 1 2014. Seconded by Director Groves, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

e. Accept Auditor's Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2013

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the District has received another unqualified audit this year and complimented Ms. Catanese on her work throughout the year to accomplish this.

After a brief discussion, Director Groves motioned to accept the Auditor's draft Report for Fiscal Year 2013. Seconded by Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

f. Approve Replacement of Small Bucket Truck

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board.

After a brief discussion, Director Owens motioned to: 1) Declare an emergency purchase of a Dodge to replace the Small Bucket Truck chassis, and 2) To have Altec remount the boom and accessories currently on the 2009 Ford F550, and sell the 2009 Ford F550 chassis at auction. Seconded by Director Groves, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

6. Discussion Items

- a. None

7. Reports

- a. General Manager's Reports

• TAMWG Meeting

Mr. Hauser reported that there is still no ruling from the judge regarding the augmented flows. He informed the Board that he will continue to follow this.

- Long Canyon Project

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that a contractor has been hired to perform the clearing that is necessary to prepare the right-of-way for the property owners at the top right of Long Canyon. He also stated that the District may begin installing the power line after the right-of-way work is complete with the expectation of energizing the line next spring. Mr. Hauser mentioned that the properties at the bottom of the road are ready for the line to be extended once the owners decide whether the installation will be overhead or underground.

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that there has been progress. He stated that Mr. Huffman has introduced the land exchange bill in the House.

Mr. Hauser also reported that Staff is continuing to work on getting companion legislation introduced in the Senate. Mr. Hauser stated that Mr. David Meyers, the new Forest Supervisor for the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, has been very supportive.

- District Website

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the District's new Website has been very well received by customers. Mr. Hauser also stated that there have been several customers who have signed up on their own to pay their bill on-line and that the office Staff has assisted several customers by signing them up. Mr. Hauser stated that the roll out of the Website and bill pay have gone very smoothly without any negative comments by our customers.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that an outage occurred when PG&E had a switching error which caused the Big Bar substation to be de-energized. The outage lasted for two hours.

Mr. Hauser reported that there was an outage in Douglas City that was caused by a weak fuse. This outage lasted about an hour and affected approximately twenty customers.

Mr. Hauser also reported that there was an outage in the B-Bar-K area which was caused when a tree fell and broke a pole. The outage lasted for nine hours and affected approximately thirty customers.

- Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser stated that he is still waiting for a response from the Bureau of Reclamation.

- Old Radio Equipment
Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that the District has replaced the radio system with the narrow band radios that are required by the FCC. Because of the requirement from the FCC the old radio equipment cannot be used by any other official agency, therefore there is no resale value. Instead of throwing away the old radio equipment Staff donated it to the amateur radio group. This group assists the Office of Emergency Services during disasters.
- Balancing Authority of Northern California
Mr. Hauser informed the Board that BANC is attempting to hire a replacement for Jim Fieder who is retiring at the end of this year.
- Board Meeting in December
Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Director Gant has mentioned that she probably will not be available to attend the regularly scheduled meeting in December.
- Tree Trimming Contract
Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that Staff has exercised the option to extend the current Tree Trimming Contract for another year.
- Don Gilbert Visit
Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Don Gilbert, Trent Smith, and Michael Robson from Edelstein, Gilbert, Robson & Smith will be here on November 20th and 21st. He stated that they are coming up to see our service area and the dam.
- Western Joining SPP
Mr. Hauser advised the Board that Western Area Power Administration is considering the possibility of joining the Southwest Power Pool (SPP).

b. Board Member Reports
None

b. Committee Reports
None

8. **Communications Received**

a. None

9. **Meetings and/or Workshops**

a. CMUA Capitol Days
February 3, 2014
Sacramento, CA

Mr. Hauser requested that if any of the Board members are interested in attending Capitol Days to please let Ms. Palmer know and she will make arrangements when they are available.

- b. 2014 NWPPA Legislative Rally
March 10-12, 2014
Washington, DC

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Ms. Palmer has reserved five rooms already for this meeting. If you are interested in attending, please let her know.

- c. 2014 CMUA Annual Conference
April 1-3, 2014
Napa, CA

10. Closed Session

Director Owens motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:40 p.m., second by Director Ludden, 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

Andy Lethbridge, Julie Catanese, and Karen Palmer departed at 3:41 p.m.

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 in 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 4:05 p.m.



Richard Morris, President

ATTEST: 

Thomas J. Ludden, Clerk