

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 10, 2014**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room
Weaverville, California

Board Present: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves,
Kelli Gant

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, James Underwood, Andy Lethbridge, Karen
Palmer, Kellie Haigh,

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

2. Approval of the Agenda order

Director Morris 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, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant,
Keith Groves

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting June 12, 2014
- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting June 10, 2014
- c. Validate Bills of June, 2014
- d. Approve Financial Reports for May, 2014

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

4. Public Input

- a. None

5. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar
None

- b. Approve Agreement with Trinity County Resource Conservation District
Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. He explained to the Board that this Agreement is similar to the Agreement regarding engineering in that we will continue to use Power Engineers for the majority of the Global Information System (GIS) work, but will have the ability to utilize a local organization for special projects.

Director Owens recused herself from the discussion and the vote.

After a brief discussion Director Morris motioned to authorize the General Manager to execute the Agreement for Services with Trinity County Resource Conservation District to further the District's effort to strengthen and modernize the District GIS Program. Seconded by Director Gant, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

- c. Approve Amendment to the Amortized Accounts and Utility Billing Delinquency, Late Payment, and Disconnections Policies

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser explained to the Board that with upgrades to the billing system, the ability to amortize amounts has become automated, which will allow the District the ability to utilize the program. Mr. Hauser stated that Staff is anticipating that by utilizing Amortized Accounts there will be a decrease in customers who are Disconnected for Nonpayment.

After a brief discussion Director Owens motioned to approve the amended Utility Billing Delinquency, Late Payment and Disconnections Policy and the Amortization Agreement Policy as presented. Second by Director Ludden, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

- d. Cast Ballot for Trinity Local Agency Formation Committee Member and Alternate

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. He reminded the Board that the District pays twenty-five percent of the total Trinity Local Agency Formation Committee (LAFCO) budget. The County pays half of the Budget and the District pays half of the remaining amount while the other special district's pick up the difference.

Director Morris expressed concern that there is still not an itemized list of expenditures.

After a brief discussion Director Morris motioned to vote to elect Bill Britton as a regular LAFCO member and Pat Frost as the alternate member for special districts. Seconded by Director Ludden, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

6. Discussion Items

a. 4-H Auction

Mr. Hauser reviewed the discussion that was held at the June Board meeting regarding the District participating in the 4-H Auction during the Trinity County Fair in August. He informed the Board that the purchase could be made with Public Benefit Funds because the meat would be donated to a local food bank. Mr. Hauser explained that Staff has done research and discovered that the Trinity County Food Bank has thirteen locations and individuals would have to qualify to obtain food.

There was discussion regarding the qualifications for bidding on an animal at the Fair. The suggestion was that the District would not bid on an animal that is raised by any relative of an employee or Board Member. The Board suggested a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 annually for the purchase and butchering of animals.

President Groves offered to attend the auction with Mr. Hauser.

7. Reports

a. General Manager's Reports

- Long Canyon Project

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the District has advertised and sent out bid packets for the construction of the main line up Long Canyon. Currently line crews are working on energizing more customers at the bottom of the road. There is still one easement outstanding for the Long Canyon Road portion and several easements on the Mountain Aire portion.

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser stated that Senator Boxer's office has expressed concern regarding the utilization of the land after the District has acquired it. There has been a suggestion that Senator Boxer's staff provide a list of what would be considered unacceptable uses for the Districts review.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that there were three large outages since the last Board meeting. One outage was in the North County affecting approximately 600 customers which was due to a blown fuse. After extensive patrol of the line there is no known cause for the fuse to

blow. The outage lasted three hours. Another outage lasting three hours occurred in Hyampom affecting approximately 150 customers which was caused by a tree falling across the power line. The third outage occurred in Lewiston which affected approximately 150 customers. The outage was caused by a tree snag and lasted 7 ½ hours. There were five other smaller outages that were caused by animals, trees, or people. Mr. Hauser mentioned to the Board that the District is experiencing more outages due to trees this year because of the severe drought conditions coupled with significant winds.

- Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that next week he will be attending a Value Engineering Exercise at the BLM office in Sacramento. The main purpose for the District to attend is to attempt to keep the project cost down to a manageable amount.

- b. Board Member Reports

Director Owens informed the Board that she will be going in for surgery on her eye in two weeks.

Director Gant informed the Board that there will be more water released down the Trinity River than what was projected.

- b. Committee Reports

None

8. **Communications Received**

- a. None

9. **Meetings and/or Workshops**

- a. NCPA Annual Conference

September 17-19

Napa, California

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the Trinity County CAO, Wendy Tyler, has been provided the information on the Conference. Directors Ludden, Morris, and Gant will be attending the conference along with Legal Counsel Underwood. Ms. Palmer is making the hotel reservations in the next few days and registering everyone for the conference prior to the August 8th deadline.

10. **Closed Session**

Director Owens motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:05 p.m., second by Director Gant, the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.8

Conference with Real Property Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

Trinity PUD General Manager

Property:

Van Duzen Property AP #018-090-64-100

b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.8

Conference with Real Property Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

Trinity PUD General Manager

Property:

Weaverville Property AP #024-200-19-00

Mr. Andy Lethbridge, Ms. Kellie Haigh, and Ms. Karen Palmer departed at 3:06 p.m.

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 3:55 p.m. President Groves reported that there was no action taken by the Board during Closed Session.

11. Public Input

a. None


12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Morris, second by Director Ludden, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 3:57 p.m.



Keith Groves, President

ATTEST:



Richard L. Morris, Clerk