

**Trinity Public Utilities District  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
September 11, 2014**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room  
Weaverville, California

Board Present: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens (arrived at 2:05 p.m.), Keith Groves, Kelli Gant

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Julie Catanese, James Underwood, Andy Lethbridge, Karen Palmer, Kellie Haigh, Richard Stiliha

**1. President Groves called the meeting to order at 2:01 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, Kelli Gant, Keith Groves  
Noes: None  
Absent: Rose Owens  
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 August 14, 2014
- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting August 5, 2014
- c. Validate Bills of August, 2014
- d. Approve Financial Reports for July, 2014
- e. Validate Payment of Claim

Director Owens arrived at 2:04 p.m.

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. Authorize Advertisements for Public Power Week

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. He informed the Board that the statistics indicate that the double Heat Pump Rebate motivates customers to change out their heating systems in October. Mr. Hauser stated that he needs to reach out to the plumbers and electricians in the area to inform them of the Water Heater Rebate.

After a brief discussion regarding on-demand water heaters, Director Gant motioned to: 1) Authorize the General Manager to place the advertisements and Letter to the Editor in the local paper as presented, and 2) Increase the Heat Pump Rebate and Water Heater Rebate for installations during the month of October in celebration of Public Power Week as recommended. 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

c. Nomination of Two Board Members to the Community Investment Committee

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. He also mentioned that the Committee will need to meet soon because the District received a request yesterday afternoon for a project that is over the allowable limit for his authorization.

Director Ludden nominated Directors Gant and Owens to serve on the Community Investment Committee. Seconded by Director Morris, the nomination 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. None

**7. Reports**

a. General Manager's Reports

• Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group Meeting

Mr. Hauser informed to the Board that he was unable to attend because of his trip to Washington DC, however Julie Catanese attended in his absence.

Ms. Catanese reported to the Board that the meeting was informative. Trinity River Restoration Program gave a presentation on their projects.

- Long Canyon Project

Mr. Hauser reported that the contractor, Bill Sharp Electric, has made it sixty percent up the hill. He mentioned that the telephone company did not mark the location of their line accurately in places which caused Mr. Sharp to damage the line. The telephone company will be sending someone out again to mark the lines more accurately.

President Groves stated that he has received some complaints about the telephone lines being cut.

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he has a meeting with the Long Canyon customers this Saturday.

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Mr. John Driscoll, from Congressman Huffman's, office phoned last week to inform the District that the Land Exchange Bill was scheduled for a hearing in the House on Tuesday and that the District was encouraged to participate. Mr. Hauser was pleased to report that at the hearing both the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management gave favorable testimony.

Mr. Hauser stated that while he was in Washington DC he met with both Senators' Boxer and Feinstein's staffers. He felt that there was a favorable response from all of the staffers. The current goal is to have the bill introduced in the Senate this session even though there may not be enough time for passage. This will make it easier to have it introduced early during the next session which will provide the time necessary for it to pass.

- Broadband

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he, Director Gant, Ms. Catanese, and Ms. Palmer participated in an American Public Power Association (APPA) webinar today regarding the FCC Grant. The Grant is in a trial stage this year and will be very competitive. They expect to have more funding available in the coming years. If the District were to apply for the Grant and receive the funding we would have five years to provide internet service to all of our customers, with the payback from the Grant spread over ten years.

Mr. Hauser recommended to the Board that the District wait a year or two to see if the County is successful in bringing the internet fiber into the area and to see if Velocity expands their services. The Board concurred that it is too early to move forward with providing Broadband services.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reported that there were two unplanned outages of significance since the last Board meeting. The first outage affected approximately 400 customers in the Lewiston area. District staff believes an animal caused the 1101 breaker to open. The outage lasted approximately two hours. The other outage was in the Covington Mill area affecting around 100 customers. District crews were performing maintenance on a riser pole. When the crew reenergized the electric line, one of the splices failed causing the pole to catch on fire. The outage lasted about thirty minutes.

- Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser reported that he is still attempting to schedule an onsite meeting with the Bureau of Reclamation. This meeting is to establish the feasible options that the District may have if we were to proceed with performing a cost study on the Project.

- Speaking to Western Customer Group

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he participated in Western's Leadership Development Program held in Sacramento a couple of weeks ago. He was asked to provide a presentation regarding Western's importance to the District.

Ms. Sonja Anderson from Western has now approached him to provide the same information while on a panel with two other customers at the Western meeting in Denver. This meeting will have approximately 200 Western employees in attendance.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he was a little late arriving at the BANC meeting due to a meeting at the District office. When he arrived at the BANC meeting he discovered that he had been voted in as the Chairman. This will mean that BANC will require a little more of his time.

- b. Board Member Reports

Director Morris informed the other Board Members that he attended the Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA) Board Meeting last week in Vancouver Washington. He stated that NWPPA members are concerned with load loss which creates a diminished utilization of the electric systems and revenue loss.

President Groves informed the Board that he recently spoke with the Trinity County Board of Supervisors Chair, Judy Pfluger. Supervisor Pfluger stated that she will place Mr. Hauser on their Agenda in November to explain how increased water down the river affects power costs.

- b. Committee Reports

None

## 8. Communications Received

- a. Special District Risk Management Authority  
Mr. Hauser reviewed the letter from SDRMA congratulating the District for not having any paid claims during Fiscal Year 13/14. This provides credit points which reduce the cost of the Districts liability insurance premium.
- b. Invitation to Western Leadership Event  
This item was discussed in the General Managers Reports.

## 9. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. None

## 10. Closed Session

Director Owens motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:25 p.m., second by Director Gant the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  

<u>Agency Negotiator:</u>	<u>General Manager</u>
<u>Employee Organization:</u>	<u>Trinity Public Utilities District</u> <u>Employees' Association</u>
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.8  
**Conference with Real Property Negotiator**  

<u>Agency Negotiator</u>	<u>Trinity PUD General Manager</u>
<u>Property:</u>	<u>Van Duzen Property AP#018-090-64-00</u>
- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.8  
**Conference with Real Property Negotiator**  

<u>Agency Negotiator</u>	<u>Trinity PUD General Manager</u>
<u>Property:</u>	<u>Weaverville Property AP#024-200-19-00</u>
- d. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  

<u>Agency Negotiator:</u>	<u>Trinity PUD Board of Directors</u>
<u>Employee Organization:</u>	<u>Unrepresented Employee:</u> <u>General Manager</u>

Mr. Lethbridge, Ms. Catanese, Ms. Haigh, and Ms. Palmer departed at 3:25 p.m.

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 5:13 p.m. President Groves reported that the Board took the following action during Closed Session:

- a. Authorized the General Manager to negotiate a side letter agreement with the union.
- b. No action was taken.
- c. No action was taken.
- d. Approved a 3% salary increase and 94% of the General Manager's Goals Plan.

## 11. Public Input

- a. None

**12. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Director Rose, second by Director Gant, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 5:15 p.m.



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Keith Groves, President

ATTEST: Richard L. Morris  
Richard L. Morris, Clerk