

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
September 15, 2015**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room
Weaverville, California

Board Present: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Clarence Rose

Board Absent: Kelli Gant

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Julie Catanese, Andy Lethbridge, Karen Palmer, Kellie Haigh, Amy Gittelsohn, Kit Andrewson, Gene Lind, Judith Simmons

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

2. Approval of the Agenda order

Director Rose requested that Item 3a, Minutes of the Special Board Meeting be moved to 5a. 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, Clarence Rose

Noes: None

Absent: Kelli Gant

Abstain: None

3. Consent Calendar

Director Rose motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Second by Director Owens, the Consent Calendar included:

- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting August 4, 2015
- c. Validate Bills of August, 2015
- d. Approve Financial Reports for July, 2015
- e. Approve Amendment to Payment of Payables Policy

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Clarence Rose

Noes: None

Absent: Kelli Gant

Abstain: None

4. Public Input

a. Rate Restructure

Mr. Kit Andrewson, Mr. Gene Lind and Ms. Judith Simmons presented comments regarding the District's new rate restructuring. The comments were centered around customers who use small amounts of electricity. Ms. Simmons also stated that living "green" and conserving energy is better for the environment. She feels that the larger consumer is not subsidizing the lower users.

Mr. Hauser and the Board explained that the District's fixed costs have also been rising and that the District is one of the last utilities in the State to implement the System Access Charge, while other utilities are substantially increasing their charges. This system wide charge is applied to all residential and commercial rates not just low usages accounts. They also reminded the public that the District provides green power since we are an all hydroelectric utility.

Vice-President Morris requested that Staff review all three customer's accounts and stated that if the customers have any further questions to please make an appointment with Mr. Hauser.

Ms. Gittelsohn, Mr. Andrewson, Mr. Lind and Ms. Simmons departed at 2:33

5. Action Items

a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

Approve Minutes of the Special Board Meeting August 12, 2015

Director Rose indicated that the minutes should reflect that the Board approved the funding amount of \$8,000 for the World Endurance Mountain Biking Organization Weaverville Championship Event.

Director Rose also stated that penstock was misspelled in reference to the Lewiston Project.

Director Rose motioned to approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting August 12, 2015 as corrected. Seconded by Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

b. Authorize Advertisements for Public Power Week

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. He pointed out that the new pictures are being utilized in the advertisement for Public Power Week.

After a brief discussion regarding the District providing partial financing for all-electric heat pump installations, Director Ludden motioned to authorize the General Manager to place the advertisements and Letter to the Editor as presented in the local paper and to double the Heat Pump Rebate and Water Heater Rebate for installations during the month of October in celebration of Public Power Week.

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

Vice-President Morris nominated Director's Rose and Ludden to the Community Investment Committee. Director Owens motioned to appoint the nominees. Seconded by Director Morris, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

6. Discussion Items

a. None

7. Reports

a. General Manager's Reports

• Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group Meeting

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the Trinity Management Council rarely considers suggestions from the Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group which is creating frustration.

• Long Canyon Project

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that by the next meeting, all of the residents who have requested power up Long Canyon should be connected.

• Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser stated that due to the extreme fire season, work on the land exchange has been slowed. Now that the fires have died down, he will contact the Forest Service to check on the status.

• Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reported that the most significant power outage was caused by the fire last week on the east side of Weaverville. CalFire and the Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department worked hard and kept the fire contained to 35 acres. The District had to de-energize the transmission line to Douglas City and Hayfork two times, once to provide protection for the firefighters and the second time was caused by a tree falling into the line. Mr. Hauser also stated that Staff will be obtaining the contact information for the individual who caused the fire for reimbursement.

• Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser reported that the Bureau of Reclamation performed the partial test on the penstock two weeks ago.

• Balancing Authority of Northern California

Mr. Hauser stated that this is still critical and active.

- Change October Board Meeting Date
Mr. Hauser suggested that the Board Meeting be rescheduled to Friday October 9th because Western is having a customer meeting October 8th. The Board concurred.
- Bureau of Reclamation Allocation Study
Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the last time there was an allocation study, it was in 1975. This occurred prior to the Bureau of Reclamation's restructuring which occurred in 1979 when Western Area Power Administration was created.

b. Board Member Reports

- Trinity Collaborative

Director Rose stated that the Collaborative is holding a meeting this Friday from 1-5 at the Weaverville Library to discuss large scale roadside shaded fuel breaks. There will also be discussions regarding salvage logging in the fire areas.

b. Committee Reports

None

8. Communications Received

- a. None

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. NCPA Annual Conference

September 30 – October 2, 2015

Monterey, California

Mr. Hauser reminded the Board that the Conference is at the end of the month. He stated that he is in the process of scheduling a dinner with Mr. Gabriel, Mr. Paluru, Ms. Anderson, and Mr. Howard from Western.

10. Closed Session

Director Rose motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:20 p.m., second by Director Ludden, the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9(d)(1)

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Name of Case: PG&E v. McColm (&Related Cross-Complaint)

- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6

Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiator: Trinity PUD Board of Directors

Employee Organization: Unrepresented Employee:

General Manager

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 4:18 p.m. Vice-President Morris reported that the Board took the following action:

- a. No Action was taken.

- b. The Board unanimously voted to increase the General Manager's salary by 5%, from \$200,077.36 annually to \$210,092.22 annually. The Board also unanimously voted to provide Mr. Hauser \$20,007.74 incentive which equals 10% of his previous salary. The Board also unanimously voted to increase Mr. Hauser's vacation accrual from 19 days to 24 days annually. The Board also unanimously voted to increase Mr. Hauser's vehicle allowance from \$650 per month to \$750 per month.


The Board unanimously voted to restructure and reclassify the Budget Officer position. The Board reclassified the position to a Chief Financial Officer and updated the requirements for that position. The new requirements include but are not limited to a strong desire that the individual have a Bachelor's degree and have a Certified Public Accountant license. The Board also unanimously voted to increase the salary from \$82,153.89 annually to \$92,153.88 annually, which will bring Ms. Catanese's salary more in line with other CPA's in the industry. The Board also unanimously voted to increase Ms. Catanese's vacation accrual from 24 days to 29 days annually.

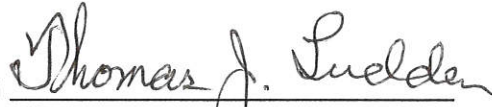
11. Public Input

- a. None

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Ludden, second by Director Owens, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 4:20 p.m.


Kelli Gant, President

ATTEST: 
Thomas J. Ludden, Clerk