

**Trinity Public Utilities District  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
April 11, 2019**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room  
Weaverville, California  
Board Present: Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Mike Rourke, Clarence Rose  
Board Absent: None  
Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Julie Catanese, Andy Lethbridge,  
Karen Palmer, Sarah Sheetz, Amy Gittelsohn, Steven DeMarco  
and Elizabeth Gargas

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

**2. Approval of the Agenda Order**

Director Morris made a motion to approve the Agenda Order. Second from Director Rourke, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Mike Rourke, Clarence Rose  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**3. Consent Calendar**

Director Gant made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Second by Director Morris, the Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting March 14, 2019
- b. Approve Minutes of the Public Hearing March 14, 2019
- c. Accept Minutes of the Safety Meeting March 5, 2019
- d. Validate Bills of March, 2019
- e. Approve Financial Reports for February, 2019
- f. Validate Denial of Claim

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Mike Rourke, Clarence Rose  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**4. Public Input**

Steven DeMarco, CEO of Emerald Connective in Hayfork, CA, requested an individual analysis for customers who require in excess of 400 amps on a parcel.

**5. Action Items**

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar  
None

b. Amend the Payment of Payables Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. After a brief discussion, Director Rourke made a motion to Amend the Payment of Payables Policy to allow the Administrative Assistant the ability to authorize payments, including signing District checks and online banking transactions. Director Morris seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:	Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Mike Rourke, Clarence Rose
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

c. Approve Electric Service Contract with Eagle Rock, Inc.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Director Gant inquired what analysis had been done to recommend approval of the contract for this customer. Mr. Lethbridge responded that the site is zoned commercial industrial, and that an engineering analysis has been completed relative to the additional load. Mr. Hauser stated that the customer has been contemplating the line extension for several years, allowing the District plenty of time to conduct the engineering analysis.

After a brief discussion, Director Morris made a motion to approve the Electric Service Contract with Eagle Rock Inc., for a total charge of \$22,940. Director Rourke seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:	Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Mike Rourke, Clarence Rose
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

d. Adopt Resolution 19-01, Resolution in Appreciation of Thomas Ludden

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. After a brief discussion, Director Morris made a motion to adopt Resolution 19-01 to acknowledge Thomas Ludden for his service to the District. President Rose seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Michael Rourke	Aye
Clarence Rose	Aye
Richard Morris	Aye
Kelli Gant	Aye

Director Ludden will be invited back to a future Board meeting for presentation of the Resolution.

## 6. Reports

### a. General Manager's Reports

- Drought Relief Surcharge  
The Drought Relief Surcharge will be removed beginning with the May 10, 2019, billing cycle. The bills customers receive in June will reflect the savings.
- Land Exchange  
No update.
- Power Outages  
There were no notable emergency outages for the time period from March 14, 2019, through April 10, 2019. There have been several lengthy outages for maintenance scheduled by PG&E. The District notifies its customers ahead of time when PG&E maintenance will affect service.
- Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)  
The Sacramento Municipal Utility District is now in the Energy Imbalance Market (EIM), although it is too early to quantify the impact. Other participants in BANC are also interested in entering the EIM.
- Drone Video  
Mr. Hauser shared a drone video from February 13, 2019 when the 60kV Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) transmission line went down, taking out power to the county. The District's drone pilot was able to identify the problem within ten minutes once the weather permitted drone operation.  
  
An infrared video was also shared during the meeting. The infrared detection will allow the drone pilot to see heat being generated on the District's infrastructure, which can be a sign that equipment requires maintenance.
- Document Vault  
Mr. Hauser provided an update on the District's progress on implementation of Document Vault. The Board Members all agreed to utilize the new Document Vault system for Board Packets. Staff will continue to provide paper copies as back-up until all are comfortable navigating the new software.
- Meter Installations  
There are 15 meters left to install on the meter installation project. Meter reads have been sporadic in some areas due to switching operations required by recent storms. The new meters have streamlined the process of customer disconnect and reconnects for both staff and customers.
- Financial News  
Mr. Hauser advised that Moody's Investor Service had recently published a commentary entitled **FAQ: California public power utilities are not immune to wildfire risks**. Mr. Hauser stated he would share the correspondence with the Board.

- Power Association of Northern California  
Mr. Hauser advised the Board that he has been invited to participate on a panel regarding Wildfires at the 2019 Annual Seminar of the Power Association of Northern California on May 8, 2019.
- b. Board Member Reports  
Director Rourke and President Rose reported on attendance at the California Municipal Utilities Association Conference in San Diego. Of particular interest was a panel discussion on wildfire and the impact of catastrophic damage to public facilities, including power lines, water distribution systems, streets and bridges during a wildfire.
- c. Committee Reports  
None

**7. Discussion Items**

None

**8. Communications Received**

Mr. Hauser read a letter from the Old Lewiston School House Library and Museum, thanking Electric Superintendent Andy Lethbridge and Lineman Ben Dailey for replacing the lamps in streetlights near the Library.

Director Gant inquired about the replacement of lights in the Hayfork Lighting District as addressed in the March 14, 2019, Meeting. Mr. Lethbridge advised that the crew discovered that birds have been nesting in the street lights in Hayfork, causing the lights to burn out more rapidly. Crews changed out the lights with LED fixtures which will not allow the birds to build nests in the light fixtures. Director Rourke stated he noticed immediately that the lights were back on in downtown Hayfork.

**9. Meetings and/or Workshops**

- a. Northwest Public Power Association Annual Conference  
Hyatt Regency Sacramento  
May 19-22, 2019

Ms. Palmer advised that she has registered all current Board Members and has reserved rooms for them as well.

**10. Closed Session**

The Board convened in closed session at 2:53 p.m. The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 3:55 p.m. President Rose reported that the Board took the following action in closed session:

- a. Closed session Item under Government Code §54956.95, Director Morris made a motion to validate payment of claims to Richard Schmidt in a total amount of \$4,215.66 for replacement of appliances. Director Gant seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Mike Rourke, Clarence Rose  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

- b. Closed session Item under Government Code §54957(b)(1). Director Gant made a motion that the Board appoint candidate Alex Cousins to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Thomas Ludden effective May 9, 2019. Seconded by Director Morris.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

President Rose - Aye  
Director Gant - Aye  
Director Morris - Aye  
Director Rourke - Aye

The Board agreed that Alex understands Trinity County Land Management issues, but this was a difficult choice because of the highly qualified candidates.

- c. Closed session Item under Government Code §54957.6. Director Morris made a motion to approve a pay increase in the amount of 13.45 percent from \$89,835.20 annually to \$101,920.00 annually for Vegetation Manager Dave Delange effective April 7, 2019. Director Rourke seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Richard Morris, Kelli Gant, Mike Rourke, Clarence Rose  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

## 11. Public Input

- a. None

## 12. Adjournment

President Rose adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

  
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Clarence Rose, President

ATTEST:

  
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Michael D. Rourke, Clerk