

**Trinity Public Utilities District  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
November 14, 2019**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room  
26 Ponderosa Lane, Weaverville, California

Board Present: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Clarence Rose, Mike Rourke

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Julie Catanese, Andy Lethbridge, Karen Palmer, Sarah Sheetz, Jim Aven, Amy Gittelsohn, Jill Cox, and Chris Huntley.

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

**2. Approval of the Agenda Order**

Director Rourke made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Director Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Clarence Rose,  
Mike Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**3. Consent Calendar**

Director Cousins made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Morris seconded the motion. The Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting October 10, 2019
- b. Accept Minutes of the Safety Meeting October 1, 2019
- c. Validate Bills of October, 2019
- d. Approve Financial Reports for September, 2019

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Clarence Rose,  
Mike Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**4. Public Input**

There were no comments from the Public.

**5. Action Items**

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar  
None

- b. Consider authorizing the General Manager to pursue modification to Trinity Public Utilities District rights of way on federally managed land.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board, after a brief discussion, Director Morris made a motion to authorize the General Manager to 1) pursue additional rights of way clearance for District powerlines within federally managed land as outlined, 2) execute agreements identified in the Board Report 3) proceed with fiscal analysis of project and 4) work with legislators to effect changes to streamline the NEPA/CEQA process. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

- c. Award Bid 19-B4, Transformers, to Gexpro and Anixter, and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreements.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board, after a brief discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to 1) Award Bid Number 19-B4, Annual Transformer Purchases to Gexpro for three-phase transformers, 2) Award the bid for single-phase pole and pad mount transformers to Anixter; and 3) authorize the General Manager to sign the proposed twelve month Contracts. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

- d. Approve not-to-exceed price with Aspen Environmental Group.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board, after a brief discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to approve a not-to-exceed price of \$100,000 for environmental consulting and permitting support for the North Roundy Road Project with Aspen Environmental Group. Director Rourke seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

e. Approve Non-Represented Employees Salary Schedule for the Year Beginning September 6, 2019.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board, after a brief discussion, Director Rourke made a motion to approve the Salary Schedule beginning September 6, 2019, for Non-Represented Employees as presented. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

f. Adopt Resolution 19-06, Resolution in Appreciation of Karen Palmer

A revised Resolution was provided to the Board, attached and incorporated herein. President Rose read the Resolution of Appreciation. Director Morris thanked Ms. Palmer for her years of dedicated service, noting that she has worked for the District through various changes in leadership. Director Morris made a motion to Adopt Resolution 19-06, Resolution in Appreciation of Karen Palmer. Director Rourke seconded the motion. The entire Board thanked Ms. Palmer. The motion passed with the following Roll Call vote:

Director Cousins: Aye  
Director Gant: Aye  
Director Morris: Aye  
President Rose: Aye  
Director Rourke: Aye

g. Consider Setting a Public Hearing to receive input on Trinity Public Utilities District's Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board, after a brief discussion, Director Rourke made a motion to set a Public Hearing for the regularly scheduled meeting on December 12, 2019, to receive input regarding the Wildfire Mitigation Plan. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

## 6. Reports

a. General Manager's Reports

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser advised that there is no new information on the Land Exchange.

- Power Outages

The Outage Summary for October 8, 2019 – November 12, 2019, was provided to the Board. Mr. Hauser advised that the majority of the outages were PG&E Public Safety Power Shut-offs. He also advised that due to the ongoing dry

conditions, the District remains on 'one shot,' meaning reclosers will open creating an outage with the first disruption to a line.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser provided information relative to a recent BANC meeting he attended. There was significant discussion about natural gas, carbon emissions, and other utilities goals to be net carbon free. He reminded the Board that Trinity PUD is already 100% carbon free.

- California Energy Commission (CEC) – Solar Rooftop Exemption

Mr. Hauser advised that the Rooftop Solar Exemption for Trinity County continues to move forward with the CEC. The item is agendaized for the December meeting, and is supported by CEC staff.

- Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Fiber

Mr. Hauser advised that he is in receipt of a draft agreement prepared by WAPA, whereby the District would provide access to the Oregon Mountain Communications Site in exchange for access to WAPA's fiber, improving communications for both WAPA and the District.

- Fiber and Communications Upgrade

Mr. Hauser reported that a request was made to Brown & Kysar, Inc. (BKI), to submit a quote to design a fiber and communications upgrade to the District's radio system. The goal is to upgrade our existing radio communications to handle location information and data communication, to improve employee safety and enhance efficiency by providing the ability to operate equipment (such as reclosers) remotely, reducing the District's response time in the event of an emergency. BKI has submitted a quote in the amount of approximately \$50,000, for the work.

- Early Office Closure – Christmas Eve

Mr. Hauser requested that the Board approve closing the office at noon on Tuesday, December 24, 2019. Christmas Eve is typically a very slow day in the office.

b. Board Member Reports

- Golden State Power Cooperative – Annual Meeting, October 16, 2019, Reno, NV

Director Cousins provided a report on the Golden State Power Cooperative Annual Meeting in Reno, NV he attended with President Rose, stating it was very informational.

- Trinity County Collaborative, October 18, 2019, Hayfork, CA

President Rose reported that he recently attended the Trinity County Collaborative Meeting. Local forestry and fuels reduction issues were discussed.

c. Committee Reports

None

## 7. Discussion Items

- a. None

## 8. Communications Received

- a. Correspondence dated October 24, 2019, from Roderick Hayfork Senior Nutrition Center.

The Roderick Hayfork Senior Nutrition Center submitted a thank you letter to the District for the donation of meet, which was a result of the Trinity County Fair Livestock Auction.

## 9. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. California Municipal Utilities Association Capitol Day  
Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento  
January 27, 2020
- b. American Public Power Association Legislative Rally  
The Mayflower Hotel, Washington DC  
February 24-26, 2020
- c. California Municipal Utilities Association Annual Conference  
Westin St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco  
April 5-7, 2020

Mr. Hauser requested that the Board advise Ms. Sheetz of their plans to attend upcoming meetings.

The Board took a brief recess at 3:15 p.m.

## 10. Closed Session

The Board entered into Closed Session at 3:20p.m. on the following items:

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel**  
Two Potential Cases
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  
Agency Negotiator: \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Directors  
Employee Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Unrepresented – General Manager


The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 4:45 p.m. President Rose reported the Board took no Reportable Action on the Closed Session Items.


## 11. Public Input

None

**12. Adjournment**

There being no further business, President Rose adjourned the meeting at 4:46 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clarence W. Rose, President

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael D. Rourke, Clerk