

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 10, 2020**

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

Board Present: Alex Cousins, Richard Morris, Michael Rourke, Thomas Walz, and Kelli Gant (via audio/video teleconference)

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Andy Lethbridge, Julie Catanese, and Sarah Sheetz

Others Present via Audio/Video Teleconference: Jim Aven, Jill Cox, Andy Johnson and Ana Wright

1. Vice-President Rourke 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. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Michael Rourke,
Thomas Walz

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting August 13, 2020
- b. Accept Minutes of the Safety Meeting July 28, 2020
- c. Validate Bills of August, 2020
- d. Approve Financial Reports for July, 2020

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Michael Rourke,
Thomas Walz

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

4. Public Input

None

5. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar
None

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

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. After a brief discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to nominate Director Walz and President Gant to the Community Investment Committee. The nominees accepted the nomination to serve on the Committee.

c. Authorize Publications and Rebates in Celebration of Public Power Week, October 4-10, 2020

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. After a brief discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to authorize publications and rebates in celebration of Public Power Week. Director Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Michael Rourke,
Thomas Walz

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

d. Award Bid Number 20-B3, Right-of-Way Tree Removal for Swift Creek Power Line Relocation to Bundy's Tree Service in the amount of \$14,200.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. After a brief discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to award Bid Number 20-B3, Right-of-Way Tree Removal for Swift Creek Power Line Relocation to Bundy's Tree Service in the amount of \$14,200. Director Walz seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Michael Rourke,
Thomas Walz

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

e. Authorize the Purchase of New Ford F350 Utilizing the State Fleet Bid Process

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. After a brief discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to authorize the purchase of a new Ford F350 utilizing the State Fleet Bid Process. Director Walz seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris, Michael Rourke,
Thomas Walz

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

6. Reports

a. General Manager's Reports

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that there is no status change on the land exchange.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser advised that the Outage Summary included one outage of particular interest that occurred on August 24, 2020 affecting Customers on the Weaverville 1101 and 1102 circuit. The outage was the result of a failed regulator at the Mill Street Substation. The regulator was in excess of 60 years old. The Outage Summary is attached and incorporated herein by this reference.

Mr. Hauser reported that while the Public Safety Power Shut-offs don't affect the vast majority of Trinity PUD customers, District customers in Big Bar, Forest Glen, Hyampom, and Grouse Creek are served by PG&E transmission lines, which the District does not control. These customers have been without power since Monday, September 7, 2020 and were restored earlier today.

Director Walz noted that several of the outages in the Outage Summary were caused by trees falling onto lines. He inquired if the District tracks the species of tree to see if there is a pattern to the species of danger trees the Vegetation Manager may take into consideration during his assessments.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser reported that BANC is still looking at a go live in late March for the Energy Imbalance Market. BANC is covering the cost of participation for Trinity Public Utilities District.

- Right-of-Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser advised that the total current budget for the Wildfire Risk and Asset Protection Project is \$2,976,932. The District anticipates that more than \$400,000 of that will be reimbursed by the Western Area Power Administration for the portion of work taking place on its Right-of-Ways. To date, the District has expended \$1,250,000. Aspen Environmental Group is currently working on a Wetlands Assessment Report and a Biological Assessment Report, as well as some Geographic Information Systems clean-up. The District is targeting a draft Environmental Impact Report by April 2021.

- Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Fiber Project

Mr. Hauser reported that he and Mr. Lethbridge met with WAPA field crews on August 28, 2020. Mr. Lethbridge has inquired with a local contractor to run fiber from the WAPA Switchyard east of Weaverville to the District's office; and from just outside the Lewiston Fish Hatchery to the Lewiston Substation. The District is contractually obligated to provide a building on Oregon Mountain to provide space for WAPA's radio equipment in exchange for access to the fiber.

- Criteria for Opening the Office to the Public

Mr. Hauser advised that in order to mitigate risk to the District's small workforce and reduce the likelihood of an office shut-down due to quarantine, the office remains closed to the public.

- Insurance Information

Mr. Hauser advised that Director Walz inquired at the last meeting the idea of self-insuring where the District can afford to. Currently, the District's expense for liability coverage is approximately \$169,000 per year. Ms. Sheetz reached out to the Special District Risk Management Association, who advised that the limits could be reviewed during the renewal process in the Spring of 2021. The District may also request quotes from other insurers at that time.

- California Office of Emergency Services/Federal Emergency Management Agency (CalOES/FEMA) funding of Roundy Road Improvements - \$223,084

Mr. Hauser reported that FEMA has approved funding for the Roundy Road Improvements project in the amount of \$223,084. Damages occurred at Roundy Road during the February 2019 Storms, which the County declared a disaster, opening up the possibility of Public Assistance funding for the District. The Roundy Road Project is unique for the District, because the damaged infrastructure required relocation as part of the repair/restoration process. Staff and Aspen Consulting Group worked with several agencies, including the United States Forest Service, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the State Water Quality Resources Control Board for a suitable alternative, which was to place approximately one half mile of line underground, mitigating for future storm damage to infrastructure.

- Fiscal Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 Budget Amendments

Mr. Hauser advised that Ms. Catanese prepared a Budget Memo documenting changes to the Fiscal Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 Budgets. He advised that the Bucket Truck and Line Truck identified for purchase in the FY 20/21 budget arrived earlier than expected, causing the expenditure to take place in the FY 19/20 Budget. In addition other known economic data was factored into the FY 19/20 Amended Budget, including a \$900,000 public assistance payment from CalOES/FEMA for the February 2019 Winter Storms event. This income was offset by an increase of \$250,000 to the Tree Budget for prevailing wages; an increase of \$250,000 to the Right-of-Way Project due to early commencement. Net impact to the FY 19/20 budget of \$119,000 increased loss. Net impact to the FY 20/21 Budget of \$522,000 decreased loss.

- b. Board Member Reports

Director Walz reported that the Forestry Ad-Hoc committee, including Directors Walz and Cousins, along with Mr. Hauser, met on August 19, 2020. He reported that the Agenda included the following topics:

1. Hazard Tree Removal - exploring the idea of working with private land owners to facilitate the removal of danger trees, and opportunities to reduce risk to District infrastructure by removing danger trees.

2. Right-of-Way Project - discussed whether it is in the District's interest to hire a contractor to determine the volume of timber on the District's rights-of-way on federal lands.
3. Joint Powerline strategy with Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) – considered a potential safety measure implementing the utility exemption for rights-of-way on SPI owned property utilizing the utility exemption.
4. Upper Trinity Watershed Project – One of the project goals is to utilize forest management to maintain and increase the water yield going into Trinity Lake. Director Cousins requested that Nick Goulette be invited to the October Board meeting to discuss the project.

The Forestry Ad Hoc Committee will continue to meet and report back to the Board.

- f. Committee Reports
None

7. Discussion Items

a. Draft Updated Vision and Mission Statement

The Board reviewed and discussed the submissions for the updated Mission Statement. Vice-President Rourke, who chaired the meeting, appointed President Gant and Director Morris to an ad hoc committee to consider the suggested statements and revamp the mission encompassing why the District was created, its history, uniqueness and future.

The Committee will report back at a future meeting.

8. Communications Received

- a. Correspondence from Weaverville Elementary School/Trinity Preparatory Academy dated August 11, 2020.
Thank you letter for Community Investment.
- b. Correspondence from the Trinity County Fair dated August 20, 2020
Thank you letter for Trinity PUD's participation in the Jr. Livestock Auction.
- c. Correspondence from the Dream Makers Gala and Auction dated June 25, 2020
Thank you letter from the Dream Makers Gala for contribution towards local scholarships.

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

None

11. Public Input (Moved to allow Public Comment prior to Closed Session)

Jim Aven clarified that the CHADEMO vehicle chargers installed at the Moon Lim Lee Rest Area do not have the proper attachment for a Tesla vehicle. The cost of the attachment is approximately \$400. He advised many Tesla owners may not have the attachment, as it is not necessary for charging at home, and in more

urban areas the Tesla super chargers are readily available. He stated that the Tesla super chargers will charge at 150-250 kW, which is much more powerful than the chargers at the Rest Area, with a full charge taking approximately 1.25 hours for a vehicle with a depleted battery.

He advised that Nugget Lane in Weaverville or the edge of the CVS parking lot might be good potential locations for chargers and encouraged the Board to inquire with Tesla.

The Board took a brief recess at 3:44 p.m. and entered into Closed Session at 4:00 p.m. The Board reconvened in Open Session at 6:04 p.m. and reported the following:

10. Closed Session

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel

Two Potential Cases

No Reportable Action

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 voted to increase the General Managers pay by three percent from \$8,915.47 per pay period to \$9,182.94 per pay period retroactive to his anniversary date of September 6, 2020. The Board also authorized a twelve percent incentive based on his current salary for fulfilling his annual goals.

11. Public Input

None

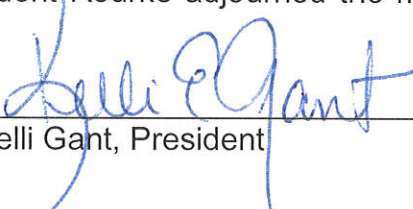
12. Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice-President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

ATTEST:



Alex Cousins, Clerk



Kelli Gant, President

OUTAGE SUMMARY
AUGUST 13, 2020 - SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

Outage	Time Off	Time On	Substation	# Out	Duration	Map Location	Cause Desc	Equip Desc
201390	8/15/2020 9:47	8/15/2020 12:30	Hayfork	665	2:43	Hayfork 1201	Animal/Bird	Power Transformer
201420	8/17/2020 13:52	8/17/2020 15:13	Lewiston	140	1:21	Buckhorn Tap	Lightening	Unknown Equipment Failure
201445	8/17/2020 13:52	8/17/2020 20:30	Lewiston	42	6:37	Buckhorn Tap	Tree	No Equipment Failure
201472	8/19/2020 8:29	8/19/2020 8:52	Mill Street	987	0:22	Weaverville 1106	Animal/Bird	Power Transformer
201547	8/22/2020 15:41	8/22/2020 18:44	Mill Street	92	3:03	Junction City	Tree	Fuse
201558	8/24/2020 11:24	8/24/2020 12:57	Mill Street	775	1:32	Weaverville 1101/1102	Equipment Malfunction	Regulator
n/a	8/31/2020 (20:00-20:15)	9/5/2020: 15:00	Mill Street	2	appx 115 hrs	Barney Gulch	Tree	OH Conductor
201702	9/1/2020 12:19	9/1/2020 13:19	Mill Street	92	1:00	Junction City	Tree	OH Conductor
201748	9/7/2020 17:07		Hyampom	187		Hyampom	PG&E Outage	PG&E Outage
201778	9/7/2020 17:15	9/9/2020 10:28	Forest Glen	24	appx 42 hrs	Forest Glen	PG&E Outage	PG&E Outage
201774	9/7/2020 17:07		Big Bar	107		Big Bar	PG&E Outage	PG&E Outage
n/a	9/7/2020 17:07		Grouse Creek	7		Grouse Creek	PG&E Outage	PG&E Outage
201803	9/8/2020 8:24	9/8/2020 10:17	Mill Street	500	1:53	Junction City	Tree	OH Conductor
201816	9/8/2020 10:52	9/8/2020 13:23	Mill Street	388	2:31	R11023 - Sky Ranch	Wind	Pole
201820	9/8/2020 13:21	9/8/2020 17:45	Hayfork	22	4:23	Vista Lane	Tree	OH Conductor

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Item 7a – Revision

Additional suggested Mission Statement:

Trinity PUD is recognized as a trusted community partner and industry leader committed to providing safe, reliable, affordable 100% carbon-free energy so that our families, businesses, and county may prosper.

9/10/2020

8c



6/25/2020

Trinity Public Utilities District
PO Box 1216
Weaverville, CA 96093

Dear Mr. Hauser and TPUD Board of Directors,

We are writing to thank you for your generous gift of \$1000 to the Trinity Dream Makers scholarship fundraiser for 2020.

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Dream Makers Gala continued to fund scholarships for our 2020 Trinity High graduates, due to caring donors like you.

With your help, the Gala partner organizations were able to award seven scholarships to this year's graduating Trinity High seniors in their quest of career in a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) field; and eleven scholarships for students pursuing careers in the health services field.

Many thanks again for your generosity contribution, you are making a difference in the future of our young Trinity adults.

Very truly yours,

REC'D JUL 07 2020

The Dream Makers Gala partners

No good or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

Please keep this written acknowledgment of your donation for your tax records.

The Weaverville Rotary Scholarship Foundation is the Dream Makers Gala and Auction's fiscal sponsor and a tax-exempt nonprofit educational organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, EIN 68-0108505. Your contribution may be tax deductible.

Thank you very much for your support of the youth in our community. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Dream Makers Gala • P.O. Box 2428, Weaverville, CA 96093 • 530-739-9791
www.TrinityDreamMakers.com • Gala@TrinityDreamMakers.com

