

**Trinity Public Utilities District  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD  
September 16, 2021**

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

Board Present: Alex Cousins, Andrew Johnson, Kelli Gant, Richard Morris and Michael Rourke

Board Absent: None

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

Others Present via Audio/Video

Teleconference: James Aven, John Brower, Raymond Merolla-DiSanza and Jeff Morris

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

**2. Approval of the Agenda Order**

Director Gant 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, Andrew Johnson, Richard Morris and Michael Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**3. Closed Session Report of August 12, 2021 Meeting (this item was reported following Item 6(e) during the meeting).**

Ms. Sheetz reported that the Board authorized the Denial of Cal Fire's Claim for the Fellows Fire at the August 12, 2021 Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of that meeting.

**4. Public Input**

John Brower of Junction City commented that climate change is impacting Trinity County in a negative way and questioned the sustainability of the District's access to hydropower. He encouraged the Board to explore options such as wind and solar. He stated that the current rate structure is not sustainable and expressed that he hoped the Board is willing to communicate this to the rate payers and hopes that additional revenue to provide service isn't put solely on the high intensity rate payers. President Rourke thanked Mr. Brower for his comments.

Director Gant requested that a presentation on the Central Valley Project Improvement Act be agendized for a future meeting.

Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:	Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Andrew Johnson, Richard Morris and Michael Rourke
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

e. Adopt Resolution 21-02 Authorizing Pursuit of a Loan Agreement with Umpqua Bank in the Amount of \$9.0 Million and Authorizing the General Manager to Execute All Documents Necessary to Secure and/or Fund the Loan

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a lengthy discussion which included the topics of the loan terms, debt service, debt service ratio, projects funded and impact on system capacity/revenue, spending trajectory, prepayment of the loan, past borrowings, and life expectancy of equipment, Director Gant made a motion to Adopt Resolution 21-02 Approving pursuit of a Loan Agreement in the amount of \$9.0 Million per the terms outlined in the Board Report, and Authorizing the General Manger to execute all documents necessary to secure and/or fund the loan. Director Morris seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

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

## 7. Reports

a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report (attached and incorporated herein), with the Board. The District is on track with the WMP inspection goals for 2021, although there were some setbacks on pole replacements due to the McFarland, Monument and River Complex Fires.

b. General Managers Reports:

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that there has been no progress on the land exchange, the expected completion date is still February of 2022.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report (attached and incorporated herein) with the Board. He highlighted one outage, which took place on September 11, 2021, which was due to a squirrel and did ignite a small fire. The location was near the United States Forest Service's Incident Base at Lowden Park. According to the line crew, a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) fire person arrived and advised that crews were not to touch the equipment or restore the power until an investigator arrived from Redding. The BLM fire person commented that the location was considered a crime scene and that customers would have to wait for the power to be restored.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California  
Mr. Hauser advised that BANC has become more interested in acquiring assets in order to balance load during periods of peak usage to avoid rolling black-outs caused by an overabundance of intermittent resources throughout the state.
- Right-of-Way (ROW) Project Update  
Mr. Hauser advised that progress continues on the ROW Project. A draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is expected in October 2021, with the goal to have a finalized EIR in April of 2022.
- Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Fiber Project Update/Oregon Mountain Communications Building Update  
Mr. Hauser advised that the building on Oregon Mountain is complete and that the District continues to work with WAPA to gain fiber access out of the Keswick substation.
- Trinity County Fair Livestock Auction  
Ms. Sheetz reported that the District purchased five pigs at the Trinity County Fair Livestock Auction on August 14, 2021. President Rourke advised that prices were up overall again this year and thanked the District for its participation in the annual event supporting local youth.
- Tesla Car Charging Stations  
Mr. Lethbridge reported that Tesla has advised that they intend to begin construction by the end of September with a target completion date near the first of November.
- NRECA Delegates – Jessica Nelson, GSPC  
Mr. Hauser reported that Jessica Nelson of the Golden State Power Cooperative is pursuing a seat on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Board. The Board appointed Mr. Hauser as the voting delegate, and Ms. Sheetz as the alternate voting delegate for the District.
- Five Year Strategic Plan and Coordination Study  
Mr. Hauser reported that BKI Engineers is facing staffing challenges. BKI recently signed an agreement with STAR Energy who will be completing the District's Five-Year Strategic Plan on behalf of BKI. Mr. Hauser has requested an executive summary from BKI by November of 2021.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee  
Director Cousins advised he had no report, but inquired if the District was considering applying for the Trinity County Resource Advisory Committee to fund powerline clearing. Mr. Hauser advised he would reach out to Pat Frost, who serves on the Committee.

- Ad-hoc Mission Statement Committee  
No report
- Ad-hoc Rate Committee  
No report

d. Board Member Reports

Director Gant reported that she and Mr. Hauser recently attended the North West Public Power Association's Annual Meeting in Washington.

**8. Discussion Items**

- Rate Discussion

Mr. Hauser thanked the Rate Committee for the time invested in preparing for the discussion. He distributed three graphs, (attached and incorporated herein) to facilitate the discussion. He advised that for the last 30 years, the plan has always been to equalize the rates for Zone A and Zone B in 2023. He also advised that in summary, the District needs to increase revenue by approximately \$2 million annually.

A lengthy discussion ensued that included the topics of rate scenarios, District projects that still need to be completed, the impact to the various rate classes, the phasing in of rates, timing and structure of potential rate increases, and the need for public outreach.

The Board heard comments from the public expressing concern over the potential of lost jobs if the High Impact Rate were increased.

President Rourke appointed Directors Cousins and Johnson to an Ad Hoc Committee to develop a process for implementing Public Communications relative to the Rate Discussion and requested they report back to the Board with a recommendation in October.

**9. Communications Received**

None

**10. Meetings and/or Workshops**

- a. Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) Annual Conference  
September 29 – October 1, 2021  
Silverado Hotel  
Napa, CA
- c. Golden State Power Cooperative Annual Meeting  
October 12-13, 2021  
Embassy Suites Riverfront Promenade  
Sacramento, CA

Mr. Hauser requested that Board Members let Ms. Sheetz know if they would like to attend any of the upcoming conferences.

## 12. Public Input

Jeff Morris commented that he appreciated the rate discussion and the expressed need for public outreach on the topic and expressed concern over the sequence of events.

The Board took a brief recess at 4:55 p.m.

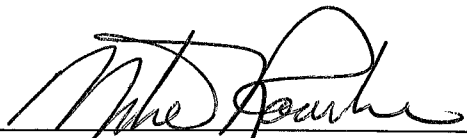
## 13. Closed Session

The Board entered into Closed Session at 5:04 p.m.

- a. The Board took no action on anticipated litigation under government code §54956.9
- b. The Board took no action on the existing litigation with Alfred and Jean Baldocchi under government code §54956.9.
- c. Director Morris made a motion to approve a one-time twelve percent incentive payment to the General Manager for fulfilling his annual goals. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:  
Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Andrew Johnson, Richard Morris and Michael Rourke  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

## 14. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Morris, Clerk

## Wildfire Mitigation Efforts 2021 - Report to Date (8/31/2021)

### Annual Pole Inspection Data

Patrol Inspection - all poles 1x every 2 years (target is 6,000/year)

Intrusive Inspection - due at 15 years, then 20 year interval if passes (target 1,000/year)

Date	1/1/2021 - 8/31/2021
Inspections Completed	3,659
Intrusives Completed	569
Poles Reported Damaged	153
Work Orders Completed	113

### Tree Trimming Progress - Silvertop Tree Service

	June	July	August (pre-fire)
Trims	496	728	249
Removal Class 1	337	751	133
Removal Class 2	92	110	40
Brush Cut	10	29	0
T&M Hours removals	105	148	42

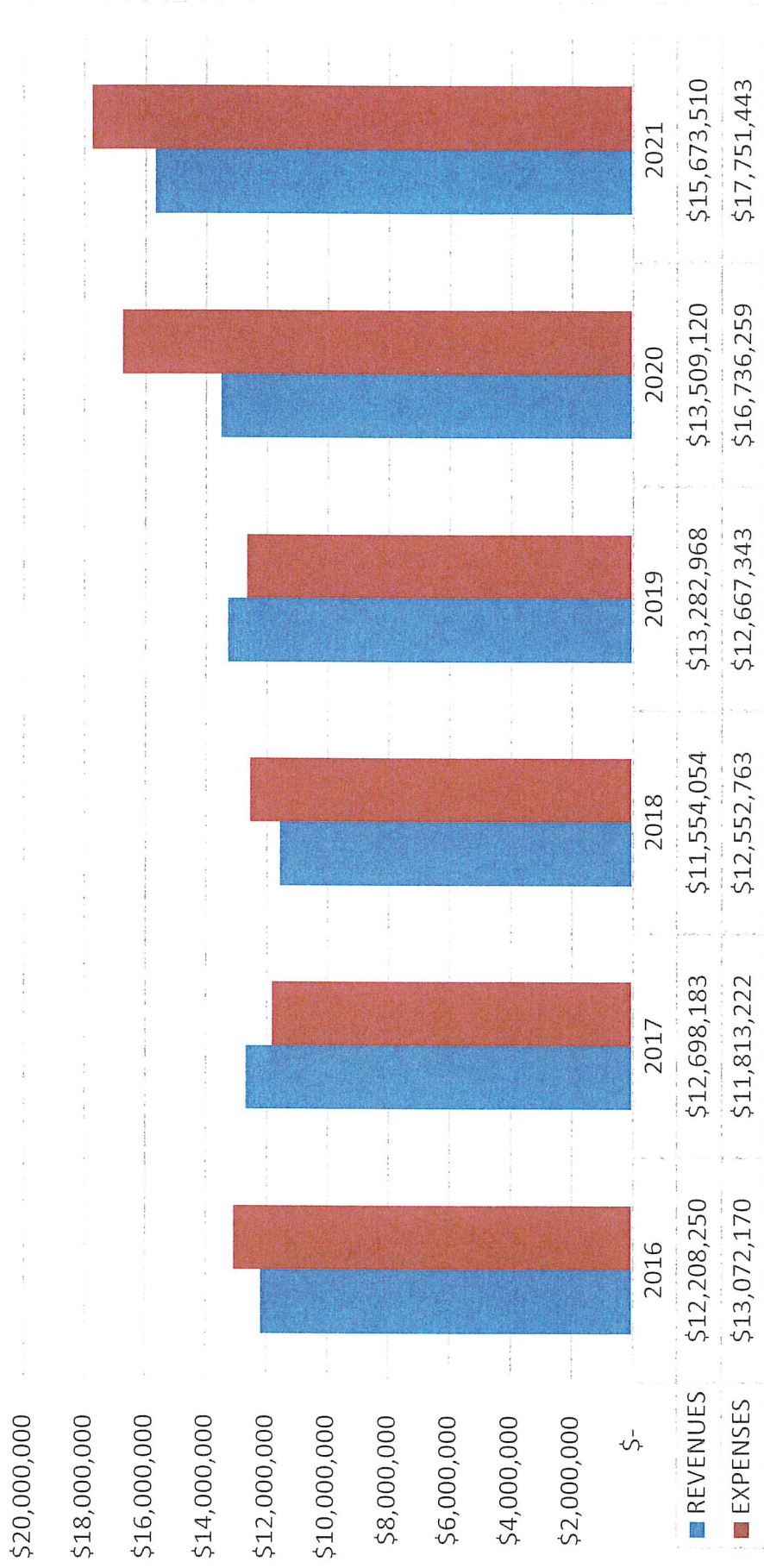
ROW Brushing and Chipping	
TCRCD	Silvertop Tree Service
Oregon Mtn	DC 60kv ROW
Red Hill Rd	TNI 2101 South Carrville
Dutch Creek Rd	Dutch Creek Rd
	Red Hill Rd

Monument Fire
Thank-you!
Silvertop Tree Service
Trinity County RCD
Hayfork Watershed Center
Brookins Earthmoving
Watkins Tree Service

OUTAGE SUMMARY  
AUGUST 9, 2021 - SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

Outage	Time Off	Time On	Sub	Map Location	Feeder	# Out	Duration	Type	Cause Desc	Equip Desc
208076	8/4/2021 8:34	8/27/2021 0:09	Big Bar	Big Bar Sub	BB1	119	543:35:00	Substation	Fire	Generation or transmission, PG&E
208074	8/4/2021 19:33	8/12/2021 22:23	Hyampom	Hyampom Sub	HY1	189	194:50:00	Substation	Fire	Generation or transmission, PG&E
208073	8/4/2021 19:43	8/12/2021 22:25	Grouse Creek	Grouse Creek	GC1	7	194:42:00	Line Section	Fire	Generation or transmission, PG&E
208092	8/9/2021 3:44	8/9/2021 5:35	Mill Street	Oregon Street	W02	30	1:51	Line Section	Animal/Bird	Fuse
208101	8/11/2021 9:13	8/13/2021 16:04	Mill Street	Helena	W02	3	54:50:00	Line Section	Fire (USFS)	Pole
208191	8/13/2021 4:53	8/13/2021 7:53	WAPA Trinity	R5410 - Strophe Creek	T21	760	3:00	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Unknown Equipment Failure
208204	8/13/2021 7:32	8/13/2021 10:19	Hayfork	Highland Drive/Vista	HF1	83	2:47	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Unknown Equipment Failure
208245	8/16/2021 16:18	8/17/2021 15:03	Mill Street	R11023 - Sky Ranch	W02	394	22:45	Line Section	Fire	OH Conductor
208258	8/17/2021 15:22	8/18/2021 7:56	Mill Street	R11023 - Sky Ranch	W02	394	16:33	Line Section	Fire	OH Conductor
208322	8/18/2021 17:39	8/25/2021 14:32	Mill Street	Dutch Creek	W02	23	164:52:00	Line Section	Tree	OH Conductor
208323	8/18/2021 17:39	8/23/2021 13:49	Mill Street	Dutch Creek	W02	12	116:10:00	Line Section	Fire	OH Conductor
208396	8/20/2021 15:57	8/20/2021 16:43	WAPA Trinity	S16754	T21	3	0:45	Line Section	Customer Caused (TDS)	UG Primary Cable
208446	8/23/2021 8:34	8/23/2021 10:44	Lewiston	FB - Lewiston 1101 Sub	L01	1103	2:09	Feeder	Unknown Cause	Unknown Equipment Failure
208559	8/29/2021 14:27	8/29/2021 16:10	Mill Street	Canyon Creek	W02	28	1:43	Line Section	Tree - Pine	OH Conductor
208601	8/31/2021 8:29	8/31/2021 8:53	Mill Street	Senger/EI Rocko	W02	2	0:23	Transformer	Animal/Bird	Power Transformer
208662	9/1/2021 16:51	9/1/2021 17:19	Mill Street	Victorian Inn	W01	281	0:27	Line Section	Vehicle Accident	OH Conductor
208703	9/7/2021 7:30	9/7/2021 12:12	Grouse Creek	Grouse Creek	GC1	7	4:42	Line Section	Maintenance	PG&E Outage
208701	9/7/2021 7:30	9/7/2021 12:13	Big Bar	Big Bar Sub	BB1	119	4:43	Substation	Maintenance	PG&E Outage
208699	9/7/2021 7:30	9/8/2021 8:10	Hyampom	Hyampom Sub	HY1	187	4:45:00	Substation	PG&E Outage	PG&E Outage
208803	9/9/2021 6:23	9/13/2021 14:48	Mill Street	Helena	W02	3	104:24:00	Line Section	Fire	OH Conductor
208805	9/9/2021 10:00	9/9/2021 13:20	Hayfork	Sunshine Meadow	HF2	9	3:20	Line Section	Tree	Power Transformer
208883	9/11/2021 13:49	9/11/2021 15:51	Mill Street	North St/Lowden Park	W06	654	2:02	Line Section	Animal/Bird	Power Transformer
208901	9/11/2021 16:40	9/13/2021 13:11	Hayfork	Meadow Lane	HF2	1	44:31:00	Meter	Material or Equipment Fault/Failure	Power Transformer
208963	9/13/2021 18:22	9/14/2021 7:42	WAPA Trinity	Coffee Creek	T21	181	13:20	Line Section	Vehicle Accident (Moving Equip/Pulled line down)	OH Conductor
208969	9/13/2021 20:49	9/14/2021 7:41	WAPA Trinity	Trinity Dam	T21	825	10:52	Line Section	Animal/Bird	OH Conductor

## TOTAL REVENUES AND EXPENSES





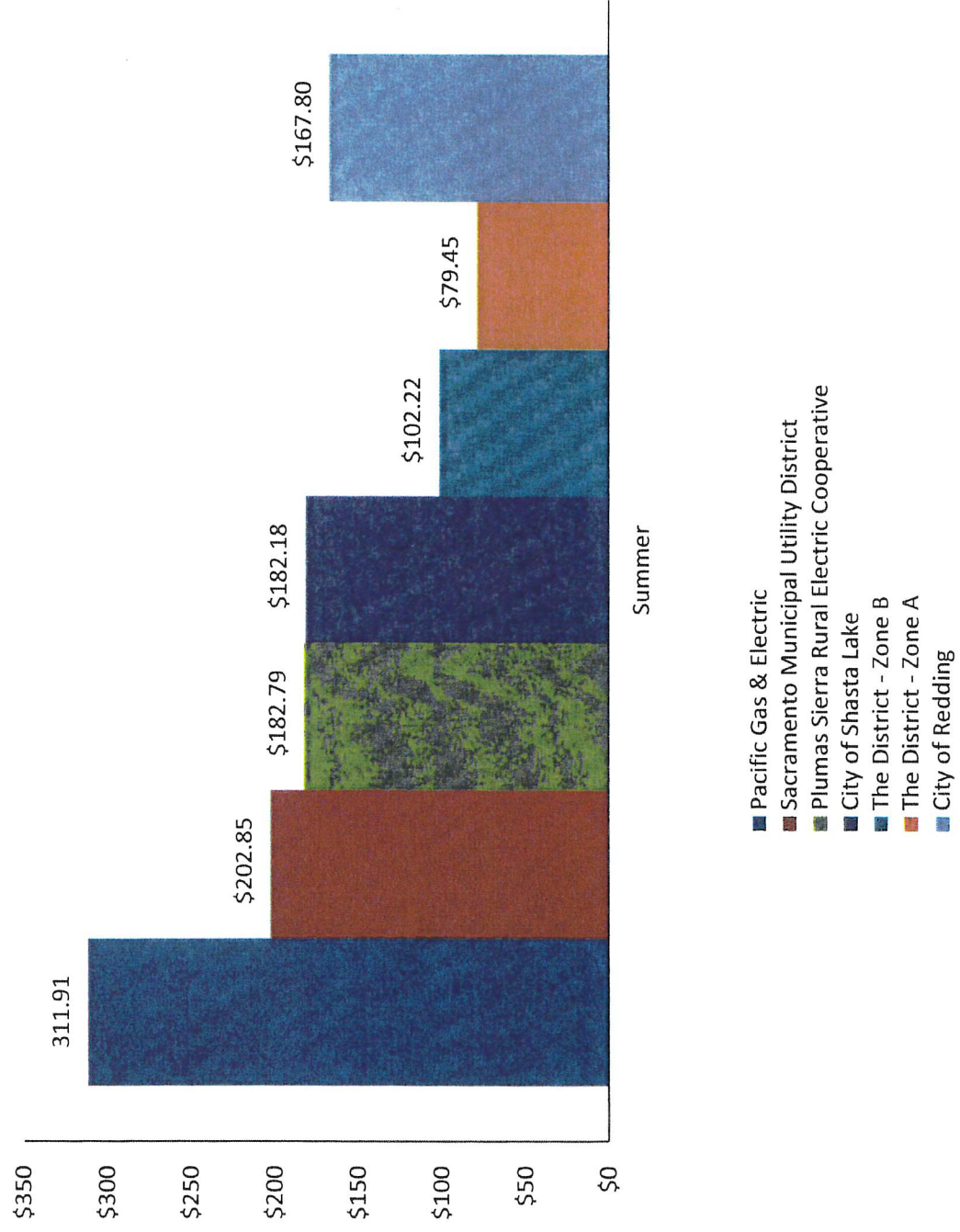
# History of Reserves



2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 Sep-21

Reserves

# Electric Rate Comparison 1000 kWh Residential



- Pacific Gas & Electric
- Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
- City of Shasta Lake
- The District - Zone B
- The District - Zone A
- City of Redding