

**Trinity Public Utilities District**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD**  
**March 10, 2022**

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

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

Board Present via Audio/Video

Teleconference: Alex Cousins

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Mike Garcia, Julie Catanese, Sarah Sheetz, Heather MacAuley, Matt Howard and Jim Aven

Others Present via Audio/Video

Teleconference: Jill Cox

**1. President Rourke called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.**

**2. Approval of the Agenda Order**

Director Gant made a motion to approve the Agenda Order. Director Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Richard Morris	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

**3. Tri Counties Bank Introduction, Heather MacAuley, Branch Manager**

Ms. Sheetz introduced Heather MacAuley, Branch Manager for the Weaverville Tri Counties Bank and Matt Howard, Relations Manager for the area. The District resumed business with Tri Counties Bank in November of 2021 upon the closure of the Weaverville Branch of Umpqua Bank. Ms. MacAuley and Mr. Howard thanked the District for the business and advised that they are available for any banking needs that may arise.

**4. Closed Session Report of February 10, 2022 Meeting**

Ms. Sheetz provided the closed session report of the February 10, 2022 meeting.

**5. Public Input**

Jim Aven commented on the Weaverville Chamber of Commerce's celebration of the Tesla Charging Stations on Saturday, March 5, 2022.

**6. Consent Calendar**

Director Gant made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Johnson requested that Item 5d be pulled. Director Gant made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar excepting Item 5d. Director Morris seconded the motion. The Consent Calendar included:

- a. Adopt Resolution 22-04 Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings
- b. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting February 10, 2022
- c. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting March 1, 2022
- d. ~~Validate Bills of February 2022~~
- e. Approve Financial Reports of January, 2022

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Richard Morris	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

## 7. Action Items

### a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

#### 5d. Validate Bills of February 2022

Director Johnson inquired about the USDA Loan payment in the amount of \$196,610.20. Mr. Hauser explained that it stemmed from the transaction between the USDA, the Watershed Center and Trinity PUD. The District has now paid the loan in full. Director Johnson inquired about the payment to BKI in the amount of \$45,514.93. Mr. Hauser explained that part of the expense was for a site visit BKI recently conducted to view the District's facilities. Following a brief discussion Director Johnson made a motion to Validate the February 2022 Bills. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Richard Morris	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

### b. Reject All Bids received per Bid Solicitation Number 22-B1, Distribution Transformers

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a discussion regarding the pricing obtained being more than six times last year's price and lead times ranging from 40-100 weeks, Director Gant made a motion to 1) Reject all Bids received per Bid Solicitation Number 22-B1 and 2) Resolve by four-fifths vote to acquire transformers through open market purchases in accordance with public Contract Code Section 20167. Director Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Richard Morris	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

## 8. Reports:

### a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Wildfire Reporting Metrics with the Board, attached and incorporated herein.

### b. General Managers Reports:

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser advised that there is nothing new to report on the Land Exchange.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board, attached and incorporated herein, advising that one of the larger outages was caused by a failed underground elbow, which can be very difficult to find.

- Right-of-Way (ROW) Project Update  
Mr. Hauser advised that an internal review of the Environmental documents is complete and that a Draft is being prepared for Public Comment. The District is continuing to explore grant funding opportunities.
  - Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Fiber Project Update/Oregon Mountain Communications Building Update  
Mr. Hauser advised that the connections are complete at Weaverville and at Lewiston Substation and that the Contract is making its way through the process. He advised that the WAPA Administrator, Tracy Le Beau, would be coming to Weaverville for a meeting soon.
  - Trinity County Community Choice Aggregation  
Mr. Hauser reported that he and Mr. Underwood had met with County Counsel, as well as Supervisors Jeremy Brown and Jill Cox. A draft Joint Powers Agreement has been produced and is being reviewed.
  - Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) – Maintenance Outage  
Mr. Hauser advised that WAPA intends to perform maintenance work on April 3, 2022. He stated that a request had been made for a 6-hour outage that would affect customers in Weaverville, Junction City, Hayfork, Lewiston, Douglas City and the North County. Staff attended a meeting with WAPA and the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) and made a request to reduce the impact to Trinity PUD Customers. All attendees were very cooperative and problem solved how to complete the necessary work while minimizing the impact. The result is a plan to island Trinity PUD off of Trinity Dam for a six hour period on Sunday, April 3, 2022 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. All parties have staff prepared for a potential outage, but do not anticipate that District Customers will be impacted.
  - Testimony on House Resolution 4178  
Mr. Hauser advised that he provided public testimony on House Resolution 4178, lobbying to continue to keep Marina Fees within the National Park in which they are collected.
  - New Employee  
Mr. Hauser reported that the District had recently hired a new lineman, Ben Hubbell, who will begin on March 14, 2022.
  - Trinity Together Intern  
Mr. Hauser reported that the District has hired a Trinity High School student, Johnny Lee, as an intern. Mr. Lee has been assisting Senior Estimator Dale Miller with load calculations and GIS work and has been updating the District's easement records.
  - GEOSI  
Mr. Hauser reported that Anton Kozhevnikov with GEOSI will be returning in May to complete the GIS collection of the District's infrastructure, with a target project completion date of August 2022.
- c. Committee Reports
- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee  
No report.
  - Ad-hoc Mission Statement Committee  
No report.

- Ad-hoc Rate Committee  
No report.
  - Ad-hoc Public Communications Committee  
No report.
- d. Board Member Reports  
Director Cousins advised he is participating remotely as he is currently attending the North West Public Power Association's Board Meeting in Wyoming.

Director Johnson reported on the Tesla Super Charger Grand Opening. He advised that the President of Holiday Market reported that District staff had been extremely pleasant to work with on the project.

## 9. Discussion Items

- a. Utility Account Deposit Policy  
Ms. Sheetz advised that Director Cousins had requested the Utility Account Deposit Policy be included on the Agenda following an inquiry regarding the District's Deposit Policy for High Impact Load Accounts. A discussion relative to the Policy and how it is applied ensued. No additional information was requested.
- b. Mission Statement  
Directors Gant and Morris advised that they would like to push this item to the April 14, 2022 meeting.
- c. Trinity Public Utilities District – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Ms. Sheetz advised that staff has been working hard on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and welcomes the Board's input relative to ideas and invitees at any time.

## 10. Communications Received

None

## 11. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. California Municipal Utilities Association Annual Conference  
Westin St. Francis, San Francisco, CA  
April 3-5, 2022
- b. Northwest Public Power Association Annual Conference  
Coeur d'Alene Golf and Spa Resort, Coeur D'Alene, ID  
May 22-25, 2022

Mr. Hauser requested that the Board let Ms. Sheetz know if they would like to attend.

## 12. Public Input

None

The Board took a brief recess at 3:10 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 3:14 p.m.

**13. Closed Session**

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**  
Five Potential Cases  
No Reportable Action
  
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**  
Claimant: Jean and Alfred Baldocchi  
No Reportable Action
  
- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  
Agency Negotiator: General Manager  
Employee Organization: Trinity Public Utilities District Employees Association  
No Reportable Action
  
- d. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  
Agency Negotiator: General Manager  
Employee Organization: Teamsters Local 137  
No Reportable Action

**14. Adjournment**

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

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

ATTEST:   
Richard Morris, Clerk

8a

## Wildfire Mitigation Efforts 2022 - Report to Date (2/28/2022)

### 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	GOAL TO DATE	1/1/2022 - 2/28/2022 COMPLETED
Inspections	1000	481
Intrusives	904	414
Poles Reported Damaged		38
Work Orders Completed		44

	December	January	February
Trims	247	465	521
Removal Class 1	437	465	538
Removal Class 2	70	81	78
Brush Cut	14	4	36
T&M Hours removals	44	104	83

<b>ROW Brushing and Chipping</b>		Total Crew Hours 143
Silvertop Tree Service		
Douglas City 60KV ROW		
Reconductor ROW		
Watkins Tree Service	Steel Bridge Removals	

8b

OUTAGE SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 9, 2020 - MARCH 8, 2022

Time Off	Time On	Sub	Map Location	Feeder	# Out	Duration	Type	Cause Desc	Equip Desc
2/9/2022 18:30	2/9/2022 22:31	Douglas City	Tucker Hill	DC1	2	4:01	Transformer	Tree	Power Transformer
2/11/2022 8:09	2/11/2022 8:56	Douglas City	Marshall Ranch Rd	DC1	9	0:46	Line Section	Material or Equipment Fault/Failure	OH Conductor
2/13/2022 10:34	2/13/2022 14:00	WAPA Trinity	Trinity Lake Dr	T21	2	3:26	Transformer	Overload	Fuse
2/17/2022 8:00	2/17/2022 12:51	Lewiston	Rush Creek Rd	L01	19	4:51	Line Section	Maintenance	Pole
2/19/2022 12:35	2/19/2022 14:39	Hayfork	Kingsbury MHP # 10	HF3	1	2:04	Meter	Fire	No Equipment Failure
2/25/2022 8:00	2/25/2022 11:45	Douglas City	Steiner Flat/Lorenz	DC1	43	3:45	Line Section	Maintenance	Maintenance
2/25/2022 10:18	2/25/2022 12:57	Mill Street	Sky Ranch	W02	386	2:39	Line Section	Overload	Elbow
3/4/2022 8:00	3/4/2022 11:08	Douglas City	Tucker Hill	DC1	6	3:08	Line Section	Maintenance	No Equipment Failure
3/4/2022 16:14	3/4/2022 21:15	Hayfork	Summit Creek Rd	HF2	1	5:01	Meter	Tree	OH Conductor
3/4/2022 17:50	3/4/2022 23:30	WAPA Trinity	Sewell Road	T21	1	5:40	Meter	Tree	OH Conductor