

**Trinity Public Utilities District**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD**  
**November 13, 2025**

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

Board Present: Alex Cousins, Michael Rourke, Joseph Trindade, Andy Johnson, Nick Goulette

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Sarah Sheetz, Julie Catanese, Delmont Senter, Wes Scribner, James Aven, Amanda Barragar, Jill Cox, Mike Garcia, Francisco Martinezcuello and Jeff Morris

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

**2. Approval of the Agenda Order**

- a. Director Cousins made a motion to approve the Agenda Order. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Mike Rourke, Joe Trindade, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. Presentation of Resolution of Appreciation and Meter Lamp to Amanda Barragar.**

President Rourke presented the Resolution of Appreciation and Meter Lamp to Amanda Barragar for her service on the Board of Directors.

**5. Presentation of Resolution of Appreciation and Meter Lamp to Mike Garcia.**

President Rourke presented the Resolution of Appreciation and Meter Lamp to Mike Garcia for his service to the District.

**6. Consent Calendar**

Director Goulette made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Cousins seconded the motion. President Rourke requested that Item 6d be pulled for additional discussion. Director Goulette amended his motion to approve the Consent Calendar excepting Item 6d, Director Cousins seconded the amended motion. The Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting, October 9, 2025
- b. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, October 7, 2025
- c. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, November 4, 2025
- d. ~~Validate Bills of October 2025~~
- e. Approve Financial Reports for September 2025
- f. Validate Denial of Claim, Ryan McCurdy

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Mike Rourke, Joe Trindade, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

## 7. Action Items

### a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar Item 6d. Validate Bills of October 2025

President Rourke inquired about a payment to PG&E on 10/24/25 in the amount of \$51,779 for six poles. Mr. Hauser confirmed that payment and description of the item were correct, PG&E is a member of the Northern California Joint Pole Association (NCJPA), the District makes payment to PG&E based on a calculation performed by NCJPA when upgrades are made to poles the District has attachments on. In these cases, PG&E upgraded to metal poles, increasing the cost significantly. Director Cousins made a motion to Validate the October 2025 Bills, Director Trindade seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Mike Rourke, Joe Trindade, Nick Goulette,  
Andrew Johnson  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

## 8. Reports

### a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update – October 2025

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board highlighting that the number of trees removed, has trended down for Calendar Year 2025.

### b. General Manager's Reports

#### i. Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that there has been no progress on the land exchange.

#### ii. Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser reported that BANC's target date for entrance into the Extended Day Ahead Market is Fall 2027

#### iii. Power Outage Summary, October 2025

Mr. Hauser reviewed the power outage summary with the Board. Most of the outages in October were for maintenance.

#### iv. Right of Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser shared that the Western Area Power Administration agreed to an additional \$500,000 in funding for the environmental work. Staff will share pictures of progress made on private property at the December Board meeting.

#### v. Fix our Forests Act

Mr. Hauser recently met with legislators in Washington DC regarding the Fix Our Forests Act. If passed, the legislation would provide a mechanism for the District to remove cut trees from the forest, removing potential fuel beneath its powerlines.

#### vi. Grants Update

Ms. Sheetz reported on the grant status for the following grants currently being tracked:

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Wildfire Defense Grant, \$9.5 million funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (IIJA)  
Status: Work underway near Estrellita with private landowner. First payment request submitted and reimbursed.

Community Facilities Grant – Sno Cat acquisition, \$236,140.  
Status: Sno Cat has been received, payment request submitted.

Community Facilities Grant (FY 2026) – Fault Tamers, \$523,499  
Status: Notified by Congressman Huffman’s office that this application is being moved forward, but has been reduced to \$360,000. Award is dependent on Congress passing a budget.

Cal Fire – Fuels Reduction Grant, \$950,000  
Status: Application for a shaded fuel break on the 60kV line from Weaverville to Hayfork submitted and under review, no notification as of the Board meeting.

Roundy Road - \$222,933  
Status: Project completed in 2019, grant funds obligated in 2020, received notice on November 6, 2025 that project is being closed out, payment expected in approximately 60 days.

vii. United States Forest Service (USFS) Regional Meeting

Mr. Hauser reported that he has been invited to speak at a USFS Regional Meeting in San Diego, CA regarding the District’s Right of Way Project.

viii. California Air Resources Board (CARB), Cap and Invest Program

Mr. Hauser reported that the District has been advised it may be eligible for credits under the new legislation for CARB’s Cap and Invest Program. The legislation includes a carbon offset from natural gas to electric distribution utilities. Staff will continue to follow the process to determine if the credits outweigh the cost of participation.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee  
None

d. Board Member Reports

Director Goulette reported that although federal government funding has been extended through January of 2026, the United States Department of Agriculture has been funded through the end of the federal fiscal year.

Director Johnson reported on a recent Local Agency Formation Commission meeting relative to the Post Mountain Public Utility District. He advised that the consultant working on potential electrification options for the community anticipates that findings may be available in January 2026.

**9. Discussion Item(s)**

None

**10. Communications Received**

The Board received correspondence from Avery Sullivan.

## 11. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. California Municipal Utilities Association, Capitol Day  
January 26, 2026  
Sacramento, CA
- b. American Public Power Association, Legislative Rally  
February 21-27, 2026  
Washington DC

Mr. Hauser requested that the Board let Ms. Sheetz know if they would like to attend the upcoming meetings and/or workshops.

## 12. Public Input

None

The Board took a brief recess at 2:32 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 2:35 p.m.

## 13. Closed Session

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**  
Claimant: Ivan and Elizabeth Vlahov  
*No Reportable Action*
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**  
Three Potential Case(s)  
*No Reportable Action*
- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  
Agency Negotiator: Board of Directors  
Employee Organization: Unrepresented – General Manager  
*No Reportable Action*

## 14. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

/s/ Michael Rourke  
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: /s/ Nicholas Goulette  
Nicholas Goulette, Clerk