# Trinity Public Utilities District MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING April 10, 2014

Location:

Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room

Weaverville, California

**Board Present:** 

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Keith Groves,

Kelli Gant

Board Absent:

None

Others Present:

Paul Hauser, Julie Catanese, James Underwood, Andy

Lethbridge, Karen Palmer, Kellie Ambrose, Bruce Sarchet,

Richard Stiliha

# 1. President Groves called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

# 2. Approval of the Agenda order

Director Morris motioned to approve the Agenda order. With a second from Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant,

Keith Groves

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

#### 3. Consent Calendar

Director Ludden motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Second by Director Gant the Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting March 13, 2014
- b. Approve Minutes of the Special Board Meeting March 13, 2014
- c. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting March 11, 2014
- d. Validate Bills of March. 2014
- e. Approve Financial Reports for February, 2014
- f. Review the Current Renewable Portfolio Policy
- g. Review Conflict of Interest Policy
- h. Award Bid 14-B2, Utility Class Wood Poles
- i. Amend the Investment of Reserves Policy

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant.

Keith Groves

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

#### 4. Public Input

a. None

#### 5. Action Items

Items Pulled from Consent Calendar None

# b. Approve Access to District Facilities Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Director Gant suggested that when a customer signs up for service, District personnel will provide the access information referencing the Policy on the website.

After a brief discussion Director Ludden motioned to approve the Access to District Facilities Policy as presented. Seconded by Director Morris, the motion passed with the following roll call vote:

President Groves: Aye

Director Gant:

Ave

Director Morris:

Aye

Director Ludden:

Aye

Director Owens:

Aye

#### 6. **Discussion Items**

## a. 2014 System Improvement Plan

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the System Improvement Plan was prepared by Mr. Dan Beans with Staff input. Mr. Hauser discussed the most important aspects of the plan with the Board.

Mr. Hauser also mentioned to the Board that Staff just purchased \$80,000 in spare parts for the current automated meter reading system that is no longer supported by the manufacturer. Someone from the District will be attending the Users Conference with the main purpose of purchasing used equipment from customers who are converting to a different system. This will allow the District to take its time converting our automated meter reading system.

#### 7. Reports

#### a. General Manager's Reports

## **TAMWG Meeting**

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that at the water year designation is critically dry. The Bureau estimates that to allow cold water to flow down the river for the fish in August and September the power turbines will be bypassed.

#### Balancing Authority of Northern California

Mr. Hauser reported that Mr. Kevin Howard and Mr. Sabhash Paluru attended the last BANC meeting.

#### Long Canvon Project

Mr. Hauser reminded the Board that he will be meeting with the land owners on April 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the individual line extension costs. He invited Board members to attend.

#### Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the Forest Service made several language changes to the bill. They then submitted the changes to Senator Feinstein's office without notifying the District. Mr. Hauser stated that Congressmen Huffman and LaMalfa have indicated a willingness to make changes to the bill that they are cosponsoring in the House.

#### District Website

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that the number of customers paying through the District's website is gradually increasing every month.

# Power Outages

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the District had four outages that were significant. One outage was on Farmer Ranch Road in Hayfork which affected approximately 100 customers and lasted about three and a half hours. Another outage was in the Lewiston Lake Area affecting about 80 customers and lasting approximately four hours. A third outage was in the Steel Bridge Road area extending to the top of Buckhorn Summit. This outage affected 300 customers and lasted about one and a half hours. The last large outage was in the B-Bar-K and Jordan Road area affecting 200 customers and lasting a half hour. These four outages were caused by trees. The last one on B-Bar-K Road was caused by an individual who cut down a tree.

# • Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that there are currently two contractors who are pursuing building the Lewiston Project. Both contractors are working with the Bureau.

#### Board Member Reimbursements

Mr. Hauser encouraged Board Members to submit their reimbursements as quickly as possible.

#### Automated Meter Purchase

This was discussed in Item 6(a).

#### Central Valley Project Cost Allocation Study

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that every ten years the Bureau of Reclamation is supposed to perform a complete cost allocation study. The Bureau is undertaking this effort now.

#### Hospital HVAC

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that Trinity Hospital's plan to convert all of their heating and cooling to electric was decided too late to be included with the current grant.

#### Not on the Agenda

#### AB 1914

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Congressman Chesbro is planning to introduce a bill that will provide Humboldt County more water from Trinity County. This bill would increase power costs for customer of the District. There is a hearing in Sacramento on April 29<sup>th</sup> that the District should attend to speak in opposition of this bill.

# b. Board Member Reports

#### CMUA Conference

Director's Gant, Ludden, and Morris reported that the CMUA Conference had good seminars, great speakers, and representatives from all over California.

## c. Committee Reports

None

#### 8. Communications Received

#### a. S&P Rating Upgrade

Mr. Hauser complemented Ms. Catanese on the wonderful job she is doing regarding the District finances. He informed the Board that there are not very many utilities receiving ratings upgrades.

# Not on the Agenda

#### b. LAFCO

Mr. Hauser mentioned to the Board that Mr. Winkler has been the District's representative on LAFCO and that his term expires May 1. He mentioned that the next LAFCO meeting will be May 12<sup>th</sup> at which time they will pick a replacement. Mr. Hauser requested that any Board Members who might be interested in being the District representative to let him know.

## 9. Meetings and/or Workshops

# a. NWPPA/NCPA Legislative Rally

April 27-May 1, 2014

Washington, DC

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that while at this Rally he will follow up on the Land Exchange legislation.

#### b. 2014 NWPPA Annual Conference

May 18-21, 2014

Billings, Montana

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he and Director Morris will be attending this Conference. If anyone else is interested in attending, please let Ms. Palmer know as soon as possible.

c. 2014 APPA Annual Conference

June 13-18, 2014

Denver, Colorado

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that he is planning on attending this Conference. If any Board members would like to join him, please let Ms. Palmer know.

#### 10. Closed Session

Director Morris motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:30 p.m., second by Director Owens, the Board entered into Closed Session on the following:

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9(b)
Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
One Potential Case

b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.8

Conference with Real Property Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

Trinity PUD General Manager

Property:

Van Duzen Property AP#018-090-64-00

Mr. Stiliha, Mr. Lethbridge, Ms. Ambrose, Ms. Catanese, and Ms. Palmer departed the meeting at 3:31 pm

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 4:25 p.m. President Groves reported that the Board authorized a settlement of one claim with a former employee relating to retirement benefits.

# 11. Public Input

a. None

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Owens, second by Director Gant, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Keith Groves, President

**ATTEST** 

Richard L. Morris, Clerk