# Trinity Public Utilities District MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING February 12, 2015

Location:

Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room

Weaverville, California

**Board Present:** 

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Board Absent:

None

Others Present:

Paul Hauser, Julie Catanese, James Underwood, Andy Lethbridge, Karen Palmer, Kellie Haigh, Clarence Rose, Pam Augspurger, James Skinner, Kathy Ratliff, Eric Anderson, Joe

Taylor, Keith Groves

#### 1. President Gant called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda Order

President Gant requested that the Agenda order be revised so that the new Board Member could be sworn in at the end of open session. She also suggested that Item 6c be moved to the beginning of the Action Items to accommodate Ms. Ratliff. Director Morris motioned to approve the Agenda order with the addition of swearing in the new Board Member and moving Item 6c as suggested by President Gant. With a second from Director Owens, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

#### 3. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting January 8, 2015
- b. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting January 6, 2015
- c. Validate Bills of January, 2015
- d. Approve Financial Reports for December, 2014

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

# 4. Presentation of Meter Lamp in Recognition of Keith Groves' Service to the District

President Gant thanked Mr. Groves for his service and presented him with a meter lamp and Proclamation. Mr. Groves thanked the Board and stated that it had been a pleasure to be involved with the District.

#### 5. Public Input

a. Mr. Jim Skinner spoke to the Board regarding the Solar Incentive changes that were made in June and requested that he be able to continue with the net metering as it was prior to the change. Mr. Joe Taylor stated that his parents would like to know how the changes would affect them in the future.

President Gant thanked Mr. Skinner and Mr. Taylor.

#### 6. Action Items

a. <u>Items Pulled from Consent Calendar</u> None

#### c. Approve Trinity County Life Support Bill Stuffer

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Ms. Kathy Ratliff briefly explained the reason for the joint membership between the two helicopters and ground ambulance.

After a brief discussion, Director Morris motioned to approve the Trinity County Life Support's request to include the insert as presented in the District's March 2015 bills and to direct Staff to use Community Investment Funds to pay for the cost of bill stuffing and mailing. Seconded by Director Ludden, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

Ms. Ratliff thanked the Board and answered questions regarding the group rates.

Ms. Kathy Ratliff and Mr. Jim Skinner departed at 2:24 p.m.

# b. <u>Interview and Appoint New Board Member</u>

President Gant stated that the District is pleased with the quality of the candidates that provided a Statement of Interest and would like to thank all of the applicants. She stated that because the District is bound by the Brown Act, everything including deliberations is required to be accomplished during open session. President Gant reviewed the Report to the Board. She also explained that the Board must appoint a new Board Member by March 6<sup>th</sup> or the Trinity County Board of Supervisors will make the appointment.

Ms. Augspurger was interviewed by the Board.

Ms. Augspurger ended the interview stating that it would make her proud to be on the Board because of the way that the District assists the community.

Mr. Rose was interviewed by the Board.

Mr. Rose ended the interview stating that the District has remained persistent and vigilant in maintaining the benefit of the allocation that was provided to the citizens of Trinity County with the construction of the Trinity Dam. He stated that he would like to be a part of an organization that looks into the future with ideas to better Trinity County.

The Board decided that both candidates met the characteristics that the District would like to see in a new Board Member. Each Board Member discussed which candidate was their choice and why. After the discussion regarding each candidate's strong attributes, Director Owens motioned to appoint Mr. Clarence Rose to the directorship of the District. Seconded by Director Ludden, the Board appointed Mr. Rose to the vacant Board position by the following roll call vote:

President Gant:

Nay

Director Morris:

Aye

Director Ludden:

Aye

Director Owens:

Aye

President Gant congratulated Mr. Rose on his appointment effective at midnight tonight.

#### d. Approve Purchase of Vehicle Through State Bid

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser stated that this vehicle has been pushed out a couple of years however, it now requires replacement. Mr. Lethbridge informed the Board that the State bid saves entities anywhere from ten to fifteen percent on purchases.

After a brief discussion, Director Ludden motioned to authorize Staff to proceed with the replacement of the Supervising Foreman's vehicle using the State Bid contract through Downtown Ford Sales in the amount of \$35,110.73. Seconded by Director Morris, the motion passed with the following voice vote:

Aves:

Thomas Ludden, Richard Morris, Rose Owens, Kelli Gant

Noes:

None

Absent:

None

Abstain:

None

# e. Adopt Resolution 15-02, A Resolution Amending Rate Schedule 17, Renewable Electric Generating Facility Net Metering and Solar Power Incentive

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Mr. Hauser explained to the Board that the District has not been following the same gradual reduction in the rebate that other utilities have been implementing. He explained that the law's intent was to assist individuals with the purchase and installation of solar power, not to pay the entire cost. He explained that after further investigations, the District should also limit the rebate to a maximum of 5 kW systems.

After a brief discussion, Director Morris motioned to adopt Resolution 15-02 amending Rate Schedule 17, Renewable Electric Generating Facility Net Metering and Solar Power Incentive with the suggested addition of system size. Seconded by Director Ludden, the motion passed with the following roll call vote:

President Gant: Aye Director Morris: Aye Director Ludden: Aye

Director Owens: Aye

The Board requested that all current net generation customers be notified of the new Rate Schedule 17.

#### 7. Discussion Items

a. None

#### 8. Reports

- a. General Manager's Reports
  - Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group Meeting
     Mr. Hauser informed the Board that TAMWG is currently waiting for its members to be reauthorized.

#### Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser stated that he attended the first meeting with the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management after the passage of the Land Exchange legislation. The Forest Service began the meeting with the distribution of the documents relating to their 64 step process. They stated that this process could take up to three years to complete.

#### Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reviewed the significant power outages that occurred since the last Board meeting. The outages were all storm related. The largest affected the entire North County on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The power was out for approximately two and a half hours and was caused by water getting into a termination. The other outages were all caused by week trees falling through the power lines early in the morning of February 7th. The largest of these outages was in Hyampom which affected 130 customers and took eight hours for restoration. The second largest outage was in Hayfork affecting about 40 customers and lasted ten hours. The smallest of the three outages occurred in Lewiston and lasted 16 hours with 12 customers affected.

#### Lewiston Project

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that Mr. Tom Miller with Shasta Lake City is still interested in purchasing the excess power from the Lewiston Project. Mr. Miller is currently working with Western Area Power Administration to wheel the power to Shasta Lake City from Lewiston.

Mr. Hauser also stated that the new legislation that is being introduced will increase the Renewable Portfolio Standards to 50%.

#### Balancing Authority of Northern California

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that there will be a strategic planning meeting next week in Lodi.

#### March Board Meeting

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that the March Board meeting will be on the same day as the travel back from Washington, DC. The Board agreed that March 13<sup>th</sup> would be a better day to meet.

Not on the Agenda

Jeremy Bickle arrived at 3:25 p.m.

#### New Answering Service

Mr. Hauser reported to the Board that the District is scheduled to be switched over to the new answering service on March 26<sup>th</sup>. The Staff is anxious for the switch and the additional capabilities it will bring.

#### New Lineman

Mr. Hauser introduced the District's new lineman Jeremy Bickle.

Jeremy Bickle departed at 3:30 p.m.

#### District Photograph

Mr. Hauser informed the Board that Ms. Palmer is working on getting a local photographer to take the District photograph. The Board agreed that the next Board meeting would be a good date to schedule the Board's photographs.

#### b. Board Member Reports

### California Municipal Utilities District Capitol Day

Director Morris reported that the meeting was very productive. There was support for the language regarding Trinity County in the new Renewable Portfolio Standard. Director Morris also stated that there were many discussions concerning the impact of marijuana cultivation.

Director Morris also stated that Northwest Public Power Association is concerned with the CALISO moving further into the northwest.

Director Ludden and President Gant concurred with Director Morris regarding the CMUA Capitol Day.

# b. Committee Reports

None

#### 8. Communications Received

#### a. Correspondence from Trinity County Amateur Radio Club

Mr. Hauser shared the nice thank you letter regarding community investment funds from the Trinity County Amateur Radio Club. The Amateur Radio Club provides a nice service in emergencies.

#### 9. Meetings and/or Workshops

#### a. APPA Legislative Rally

March 9-11, 2015

Grand Hyatt, Washington DC

Mr. Hauser stated that everything except the individual meetings with our delegates is completed for this trip.

#### b. CMUA Annual Conference

April 14-16, 2015

Carlsbad, California

Mr. Hauser asked the Board to please let Ms. Palmer know if you plan to attend this conference. The District just received the information today and Ms. Palmer will be reserving rooms next week.

President Gant and Director Morris stated that they will be attending.

#### c. NWPPA Annual Conference

May 17-21, 2015

Anchorage, Alaska

Mr. Hauser reminded the Board that Director Morris will be installed as President of NWPPA during this conference. He asked that any Board Member interested in attending to please let Ms. Palmer know as soon as possible. Director Ludden stated that he will attend. President Gant might be attending.

#### d. APPA Annual Conference

June 5-10, 2015

Minneapolis, Minnesota

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

### 10. Swearing In New Board Member

Ms. Palmer swore in Mr. Clarence Rose to fill the vacant seat on the Board of Directors effective at midnight.

#### 11. Closed Session

Director Morris motioned to go into Closed Session at 3:50 p.m., second by Director Ownes 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 §54956.9(d)(1)

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Name of Case:

PG&E v. McColm (& Related Cross-Complaint)

Ms. Augspurger, Mr. Rose, Mr. Lethbridge, Ms. Catanese, Ms. Haigh, and Ms. Palmer departed at 3:51 p.m.

The Board came out of Closed Session and immediately reconvened in Open Session at 4:09 p.m. President Gant reported that the Board took no action during Closed Session.

# 11. Public Input

a. None

# 12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Director Morris, second by Director Ludden, passing unanimously, the Board adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

elli Gant, President

**ATTEST** 

「homas J. Ludde∱, ∕Clerk