

Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 11, 2021

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

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

Board Absent: Richard Morris

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

Others Present via Audio/Video

Teleconference: Jim Aven, Larry Glass, Tony Reed, Tom Walz and Amanda Starlight

1. President Rourke called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda Order

Director Gant made a motion to approve the Agenda Order. Director Cousins seconded the motion. Mr. Hauser advised that the date on the second line of Item 3 should read February 11, 2021. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Andrew Johnson, and Michael Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: Richard Morris

Abstain: None

3. Closed Session Report of February 11, 2021 Meeting

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel

Three Potential Cases
No Reportable Action

b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Claimant: Alfred Baldocchi and Jean Baldocchi
No Reportable Action

c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Helena Fire
No Reportable Action

d. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Claimant: Cecil R. Connor
Mr. Hauser and Mr. Underwood reviewed the item with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Cousins made a motion to engage

Attorney James Wyatt to represent the District in this case. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Andrew Johnson, and Michael Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: Richard Morris

Abstain: None

4. Public Input

None

5. Consent Calendar

Director Gant made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, Director Johnson seconded the motion. The Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting February 11, 2021
- b. Accept Minutes of the Safety Meeting February 2, 2021
- c. Validate Bills of February, 2021
- d. Approve Financial Reports for January, 2021
- e. Approve Electric Service Contract with Jacob Mason-Davis for service at 320 Coffin Road in the amount of \$2,692.36.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Andrew Johnson, and Michael Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: Richard Morris

Abstain: None

6. Action Items

a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

b. Approve Amendment to the Connection and Reconnection Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a lengthy discussion, Director Gant made a motion to amend the Connection and Reconnection Policy. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, Andrew Johnson, and Michael Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: Richard Morris

Abstain: None

c. Approve Nomination of Andrew Johnson as Candidate to Serve on the Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to approve the nomination of Andrew Johnson as a candidate to serve on LAFCO. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Kelli Gant, and Michael Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: Richard Morris

Abstain: Andrew Johnson

- d. Approve Acquisition of new Drone and LiDAR system in the amount of approximately \$110,000 to assist with Wildfire Mitigation Work

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding staffing and resources required to utilize the data and equipment. Director Johnson suggested that staff obtain a proposal from another source to do the vegetation survey with Lidar. Mr. Hauser agreed. Director Cousins made a motion to approve the acquisition of a new Drone and LiDAR system in an amount not to exceed \$110,000. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

- e. Award Bid Number 21-B1, Distribution Transformers to Rexel USA, Inc. dba GEXPRO for three-phase pad mount transformers; and to Anixter, Inc. for single phase pad and pole mount transformers.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Gant made a motion to Award Bid number 21-B1, Distribution Transformers to Rexel USA, Inc. dba GEXPro for three-phase pad mount transformers; and to Anixter, Inc. for single phase pad and pole mount transformers. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

- f. Approve Declaration of Surplus Vehicle

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to declare the Ford F-150 Surplus to the District's needs and authorize the General Manager to proceed with disposal of the equipment utilizing J.J. Cane Auctioneers. Director Gant seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

7. Reports

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

Mr. Hauser provided the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Metrics Update to the Board. Crews continue to make progress on inspections and repair work.

b. General Managers Reports:

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser advised that he is optimistic that the United States Forest Service is working on getting the legal description of the project required for the District to proceed with the Yellow Book Appraisal.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser advised that the Mill Street 1102 Circuit that serves Junction City has had an increased frequency of outages over the past few months. There have been some maintenance outages to perform work to improve reliability.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

The Balancing Authority of Northern California is going live in the Energy Imbalance Market at the end of March. The ISO is looking for resources to avoid rolling black outs next summer. Central Valley Project generation is being looked at as a potential resource.

Tom Walz inquired about lake levels and water releases down the Trinity River. Mr. Hauser advised that one unit at Trinity Dam can cover the Districts power needs, but that the District gets its power from the entire Central Valley Project. He advised that when water is sent down the Trinity River – generation is lost from Carr Powerhouse, Spring Creek and Keswick Dam.

- Right-of-Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser advised that the work continues on the Right of Way Project. He advised that we are in receipt of the Agency Review Agreements from the United States Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The USFS estimate to do the review work is \$113,000; and BLM's estimate is \$55,000. The reviews are required for the project. The Agreements have been reviewed by Mr. Underwood and will be executed and returned to both Agencies.

- Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Fiber Project Update

Mr. Hauser advised that the District is at the point where we could connect our own office to the fiber. However, the equipment required to provide commercial access, once approved, is different than what the District would install if we were to only hook up our facilities.

Director Gant inquired if AT&T will always be the upstream provider? There is also the ability to tie into Spectrum, but the AT&T connection is more accessible.

Director Johnson inquired on the Five-Year Plan and Circuit Coordination Study being conducted by BKI. Mr. Hauser advised that the work is underway and that staff has provided responses to the data requests on the projects.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee

No Report

- Ad-hoc Mission Statement Committee
No Report

d. Board Member Reports

Director Gant reported on the Public Policy Makers Council for the American Public Power Association. She advised that the Council is familiarizing itself with the new Administration and that the lack of travel and in person meetings has affected the ability to effectively meet with representatives.

8. Discussion Items

None

9. Communications Received

None

10. Meetings and/or Workshops

None

11. Public Input

Tom Walz provided public comment requesting more information on Closed Session Items. Mr. Underwood advised that the notice as provided meets the Brown Act Requirements.

The Board took a brief recess at 3:46 p.m.

12. Closed Session

The Board entered into Closed Session at 4:00 p.m.

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel

Two Potential Cases

No Reportable Action

b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Claimant: Alfred Baldocchi and Jean Baldocchi

No Reportable Action

c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Claimant: Cecil R. Connor

No Reportable Action

e. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6

Conference with labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

General Manager

Employee Organizations:

Trinity Public Utilities District Employees' Association, Teamsters Local 137, Unrepresented

The Board approved and directed the General Manager to offer financial incentives to non-management District employees to voluntarily receive a COVID-19 vaccine before April 30, 2021 in the form of an incentive payment not to exceed \$1,000 per employee following vaccination, [in the discretion of the General Manager,] in order to minimize the risk of employee quarantines impacting the ability to provide service to District customers.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.



Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: 
Richard Morris, Clerk

OUTAGE SUMMARY
FEBRUARY 10, 2021 - MARCH 10, 2021

Time Off	Time On	Sub	Next Pro Dvc	Feeder #	# Out	Duration	Cause Desc	Equip Desc
2/11/2021 8:30	2/11/2021 10:42	Mill Street	F9518 - Sam Lee Drive/Hawthorne	W07	17	2:12	Maintenance	OH Conductor
2/13/2021 5:53	2/13/2021 8:30	Mill Street	F10940 - Oregon Mountain Road	W02	10	2:36	Unknown Cause	Fuse
2/16/2021 8:00	2/16/2021 16:44	Hayfork	F10284 - Gladys St	HF3	10	8:44	Maintenance	Maintenance
2/22/2021 2:52	2/22/2021 8:02	Lewiston	F14435 - Old Lewiston Road	L01	3	5:10	Tree	OH Conductor
2/26/2021 13:04	2/26/2021 17:16	Mill Street	Wwvl Sub - JC Circuit	W02	506	4:12	Wind	OH Conductor
2/26/2021 13:59	2/26/2021 16:37	Mill Street	R11023 - Sky Ranch	W02	14	2:38	Wind	OH Conductor
2/26/2021 14:08	2/26/2021 17:20	Hayfork	F8627 - Summit Creek	HF2	38	3:11	Wind	OH Conductor
2/26/2021 16:47	2/26/2021 18:00	WAPA Trinity	R5531 - Bowerman North	T21	572	1:13	Wind	OH Conductor
2/27/2021 7:00	2/27/2021 16:53	Mill Street	F10940 - JC Circuit	W02	433	9:53	Maintenance	Maintenance
2/28/2021 21:43	3/1/2021 1:10	Hayfork	F9116 - Brady Road/Carter Gulch	HF1	67	3:27	Material or Equipment Fault/Failure	Fuse
3/4/2021 1:32	3/4/2021 12:38	Douglas City	F7571 - Jordan Road	DC1	11	11:06	Material or Equipment Fault/Failure	Power Transformer
3/4/2021 8:00	3/4/2021 13:08	Mill Street	R11921 - Powerhouse/Valdor Road	W02	31	5:08	Maintenance	Maintenance
3/6/2021 20:54	3/7/2021 0:30	Mill Street	F10921 - JC Circuit	W02	433	3:36	Material or Equipment Fault/Failure	OH Connector, Clamp or Splice
3/9/2021 10:04	3/9/2021 15:20	Hyampom	F4592 - Creekside Lane	HY1	7	5:15	Tree	Fuse
3/9/2021 22:11	3/10/2021 1:30	Mill Street	Wwvl Sub - JC Circuit	W02	505	3:19	Snow/Ice	OH Conductor