

Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 12, 2021

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

Board Present: Alex Cousins, Andrew Johnson, Richard Morris and Michael Rourke

Board Present via Audio/Video

Teleconference: Kelli Gant

Board Absent: None

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

Others Present via Audio/Video

Teleconference: Anton Kozhevnikov

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

2. Approval of the Agenda Order

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

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. Closed Session Report of June 10, 2021 Meeting

Ms. Sheetz provided the Closed Session Report of the June 10, 2021 Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of that meeting.

4. Presentation by Anton Kozhevnikov of GEOSi

Anton Kozhevnikov of GEOSi provided a presentation on the Infrastructure Re-survey project undertaken by the District in Spring of 2021. Mr. Kozhevnikov provided statistical information on the progress of the project, as well as a visual representation of existing infrastructure as compared to data collection in some locations. Accuracy of the infrastructure data will become more critical as the District continues to improve the use of drones for vegetation management, inspections and locating outages.

5. Public Input

None

6. Consent Calendar

Director Morris made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, Director Cousins seconded the motion. The Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting June 10, 2021
- b. Accept Minutes of the Safety Meetings June 2, 2021 and June 29, 2021

- c. Validate Bills of June 2021 and July 2021
- d. Approve Financial Reports for May 2021 and June 2021

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

7. Action Items

a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

b. Approve Unrepresented Employees Salary Schedule

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to approve the Unrepresented Employees Salary Schedule. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

c. Award Bid Schedule 21-B2, Brushing and Chipping to Silver Top Tree Services

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Johnson made a motion to award Bid Schedule 21-B2 for Brushing and Chipping to Silver Top Tree Services and authorized the General Manager to execute the Contract. Director Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

d. Approve purchase of Altec DL45B Digger Derrick Line Truck

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Morris made a motion to approve the purchase of an Altec DL45B Digger Derrick Line Truck. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

8. Reports

a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report (attached and incorporated herein), with the Board. Mr. Lethbridge reported that the pole clearing has been completed for 2021, inspections are on target and tree trimming and removal increased in July.

b. General Managers Reports:

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that the United States Forest Service did have surveyors in the area recently, who were gathering data to provide the description for the required appraisal. The appraisal is necessary for the land exchange to move forward, the District is just awaiting the description so that an appraiser can be hired. The current fire activity has dramatically limited Forest Service resources.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report (attached and incorporated herein) with the Board. PG&E was asked to de-energize the Cottonwood/Bridgeville line on 8/4/2021 due to the McFarland Fire. They are currently islanding the Coast and are reluctant to feed Hyampom in this configuration. The District will continue to advocate for its Hyampom customers. Director Cousins made an inquiry about a hydroelectric generation facility in Hyampom. Mr. Lethbridge reported that to his knowledge it is not operational.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California

Mr. Hauser advised that he attended the BANC Strategic Planning meeting in Sacramento on 8/11/2021. The Governance of the California Independent System Operator (Cal ISO) was a topic of discussion at the meeting.

- Right-of-Way (ROW) Project Update

Mr. Hauser advised that he received updated information from Aspen Consulting Group that the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) may announce Grant Awards for the Fire Prevention Program as early as September 2021. Work on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Right-of-Way Project is progressing well. Director Johnson inquired on the remaining balance on the District's Contract with Aspen Environmental Group. Mr. Hauser responded he would provide that information at the September meeting.

- Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) Fiber Project Update/Oregon Mountain Communications Building Update

Mr. Hauser reported that the building is constructed and the tower has been installed. The District is awaiting the installation of a generator and the wiring of the building. The fiber is clear from Weaverville to the Lewiston Substation and is available for District use.

- Trinity County Fair Livestock Auction
Mr. Hauser advised that he will be out of the area for the Livestock Auction and Ms. Sheetz will attend on the District's behalf. The Board concurred with the setting the same budget as in 2020, which was approximately \$13,000 plus processing fees. The livestock acquired is processed and distributed to the Roderick Senior Center and the Trinity County Food Bank.
- Board Meeting Schedule
Mr. Hauser advised that there are two upcoming changes to the Regular Board Meeting Schedule. The September 9, 2021 meeting will be canceled due to a conflict, and a special meeting will be held September 13, 2021. The November 11, 2021 meeting will be canceled due to a Holiday, and a special meeting will be held November 9, 2021.
- Wi-Fi Hot Spot
Mr. Hauser reported that Velocity Technology has set up a wi-fi hot spot for wildfire evacuees at the old Trinity Outfitters location near Holiday Market free of charge. The location did not have power, so at Velocity's request Mr. Hauser authorized electric service to the hotspot to facilitate the community benefit.

A discussion regarding the progress on the Tesla charging stations in the Holiday Market ensued. The Tesla project is moving forward and the required transformer has been ordered. Mr. Lethbridge did not yet know the timeline for installation.

- Five Year Strategic Plan
Mr. Hauser advised that the Five-Year Plan has been further delayed due to personnel changes at BKI Engineers. BKI has advised that they intend to have an updated schedule with a target completion date to the District within two weeks.
- Umpqua Bank
Umpqua Bank has announced that they will be closing the Weaverville Store effective November 3, 2021. Staff is considering a variety of options for banking services.
- Senate Bill 12
Mr. Hauser advised that he sent a letter to Senator McGuire requesting a significant change to the proposed bill. Trinity County has also submitted a letter requesting an exemption for projects of 9 units or less of any additional requirements for counties that have a population of less than 50,000 people.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee
Director Cousins reported that there were no meetings of the Committee, but that the use of power line access roads as staging areas for fire suppression was encouraging relative to the ROW Project.

- Ad-hoc Mission Statement Committee
Director Gant requested guidance from the Board on the Committee's approach to the Mission Statement. The consensus was to present the various proposals to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.
- Ad-hoc Rate Committee
Directors Gant provided a status update on the Rate discussion. She reported that she, Director Johnson, Mr. Hauser and Ms. Catanese had met and come up with a variety of scenarios regarding rates. She and Director Johnson requested clarification on several items and a discussion ensued.

d. Board Member Reports

None

8. Discussion Items

- State Funding for Rural Broadband
Mr. Hauser advised that two of the other Golden State Power Cooperative agencies, Anza Electric and Plumas-Sierra have successfully implemented grant-funded projects and entered the broadband business. Significant grant funds are available to public agencies for broadband deployment. The Board recognizes that access to high speed internet service is essential to the economic health of the County and suggested some further research on the topic.
- Reconductoring the 1102 Circuit that serves Junction City
Mr. Hauser advised that we had this discussion as part of the budget process, but not specifically with the whole Board present. The proposed project is estimated to cost approximately \$3,000,000 and could potentially be completed in the Spring of 2022. Following a lengthy discussion, President Rourke requested that staff come prepared with a proposal for the loan and to set a time line for implementation.

10. Communications Received

The Board received correspondence from the Trinity Trail Alliance thanking the District for participation in the 2021 La Grange Classic Mountain Biking Race.

11. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. Northwest Public Power Association Annual Conference
September 8-9, 2021
Kennewick, WA
- b. Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) Annual Conference
September 29 – October 1, 2021
Silverado Hotel
Napa, CA

- c. Golden State Power Cooperative Annual Meeting
October 12-13, 2021
Embassy Suites Riverfront Promenade
Sacramento, CA

Mr. Hauser requested that Board Members let Ms. Sheetz know if they would like to attend any of the upcoming conferences.

12. Public Input

None

The Board took a brief recess at 5:20 p.m.

13. Closed Session

The Board entered into Closed Session at 5:26 p.m.

- a. Potential Litigation under Government Code §54956.9.


Director Morris made a motion to authorize Downey Brand to send a letter to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) denying the agency's claim for the Fellows Fire. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

- b. The Board took no action on the existing litigation with Alfred and Jean Baldocchi under government code §54956.9.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 5:37 p.m.



Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: 

Richard Morris, Clerk

Trinity Public Utilities District
Nonrepresented Employees - Bi-weekly Salary Schedule

	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
General Manager	9/6/2020	\$ 9,182.94	\$ 9,182.94
Electric Superintendent	6/27/2021	\$ 6,730.98	\$ 6,730.98
Chief Financial Officer	6/27/2021	\$ 6,136.38	\$ 6,136.38
Administrative Services Manager	6/27/2021	\$ 4,711.01	\$ 4,711.01

Approved: 
Michael Rourke, President

Attested: 
Richard Morris, Clerk

Wildfire Mitigation Efforts 2021 - Report to Date (7/31/2021)

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	1/1/2021 - 7/31/2021
Inspections Completed	3,477
Intrusives Completed	410
Poles Reported Damaged	145
Work Orders Completed	112

Tree Trimming Progress - Silvertop Tree Service

	May	June	July
Trims	212	496	728
Removal Class 1	297	337	751
Removal Class 2	85	92	110
Brush Cut	22	10	29
T&M Hours removals	135	105	148

Pole Clearing completed poles	
June	July
268	104

Pole Clearing contract completed

OUTAGE SUMMARY
June 11, 2021 - August 8, 2021

Time Off	Time On	Sub	Map Location	Feeder #	Out	Duration	Type	Cause Desc	Equip Desc
6/11/2021 7:00	6/11/2021 19:00	Big Bar	Big Bar Sub	BB1	123	12:00	Line Section	PG&E Outage	OH Conductor
6/16/2021 18:28	6/16/2021 20:32	Mill Street	Glen Road/Nugget Lane	W03	77	2:04	Line Section	Fire	OH Conductor
6/17/2021 17:53	6/17/2021 21:42	Hayfork	Summit Creek Road	HF2	30	3:49	Line Section	Material or Equipment Fault/Failure	Power Transformer
6/20/2021 8:26	6/20/2021 12:00	Hayfork	Hyampom Road	HF3	84	3:33	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Fuse
6/20/2021 9:44	6/20/2021 13:00	Lewiston	F5989	L01	10	3:16	Line Section	Default - Do Not Use	Default - Do Not Use
6/21/2021 15:49	6/21/2021 16:34	Mill Street	West Weaverville	W07	636	0:45	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Unknown Equipment Failure
6/24/2021 10:57	6/24/2021 12:02	Mill Street	Junction City/Sky Ranch	W02	393	1:04	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Unknown Equipment Failure
7/3/2021 16:35	7/3/2021 22:45	Big Bar	Big Bar	BB1	38	6:10	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Power Transformer
7/3/2021 16:39	7/3/2021 22:45	Big Bar	Big Bar	BB1	20	6:05	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Power Transformer
7/8/2021 13:10	7/8/2021 14:24	Hayfork	Carter Gulch	HF1	21	1:14	Line Section	Customer Caused	UG Secondary Cable or Fittings
7/12/2021 15:58	7/12/2021 17:54	WAPA Trinity	North County	T21	574	1:55	Line Section	Unknown Cause	Unknown Equipment Failure
7/13/2021 5:14	7/13/2021 7:18	Mill Street	Canyon Creek	W02	65	2:04	Line Section	Tree - Pine	OH Conductor
7/23/2021 14:15	7/23/2021 19:18	WAPA Trinity	Coffee Creek	T21	167	5:03	Line Section	Tree	Circuit breaker
7/30/2021 7:00	7/30/2021 22:46	Forest Glen	Forest Glen	FG1	6	15:46	Transformer	PG&E Outage	Maintenance
7/30/2021 16:04	7/30/2021 19:59	Mill Street	West Weaverville	W07	353	3:55	Line Section	Wind	OH Conductor
7/30/2021 15:54	7/31/2021 7:54	Lewiston	Goose Ranch Road	L01	160	15:59	Line Section	Wind	OH Conductor
7/30/2021 15:56	7/30/2021 20:06	Mill Street	North Weaverville	W06	974	4:09	Transformer	Wind	OH Conductor
7/30/2021 15:40	7/30/2021 16:54	Mill Street	East Weaverville	W01	280	1:13	Line Section	Lightening	OH Conductor
8/4/2021 7:58	8/4/2021 14:06	Hayfork	R8185 - Tule Creek	HF3	161	6:08	Line Section	Maintenance	No Equipment Failure
8/4/2021 8:27	8/5/2021 16:00	Forest Glen	Forest Glen	FG1	16	7:33	Substation	PG&E Outage (Fire)	Generation or transmission, other
8/4/2021 19:41		Hyampom	Hyampom Sub	HY1	188		Substation	PG&E Outage (Fire)	Generation or transmission, other
8/4/2021 19:41		Big Bar	Big Bar Sub	BB1	125		Substation	PG&E Outage (Fire)	Generation or transmission, other
8/4/2021 19:41		Grouse Creek	Grouse Creek Sub	GC1	7		Substation	PG&E Outage (Fire)	Generation or transmission, other
8/8/2021 19:20	8/8/2021 20:10	Mill Street	R11023 - Sky Ranch	W02	97	0:50	Line Section	Tree	OH Conductor