

**Trinity Public Utilities District**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD**  
**June 9, 2022**

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

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

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Mike Garcia, Julie Catanese, Sarah Sheetz, David DeLange, Dale Miller, James Aven and Jill Cox

Others Present via Audio/Video

Teleconference: Amanda Barragar and Merritt Goodyear

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

**2. Approval of the Agenda Order**

Director Gant made a motion to approve the Agenda Order. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Nicholas Goulette	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

**3. Closed Session Report of May 12, 2022 Regular Meeting and the May 12, 2022 Special Meeting**

Ms. Sheetz provided the closed session report of the May 12, 2022 Regular Meeting and the May 12, 2022 Special Meeting.

**4. Public Input**

None

**5. Consent Calendar**

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

- a. Adopt Resolution 22-08 Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings
- b. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting May 12, 2022
- c. Approve Minutes of the Special Board Meeting May 12, 2022
- d. Approve Minutes of the Safety Meeting May 24, 2022
- e. Validate Bills of May, 2022
- f. Approve Financial Reports of April, 2022
- g. Approve Electric Service Contract with Filip Pejovic for 1200 amp underground service on Salt Creek Road in Hayfork
- h. Authorize Purchase of Trailer from Sauber Manufacturing in the amount of \$70,128 plus tax and licensing fees.
- i. Award Bid Schedule No. 22-B2, Utility Class Wood Poles to Stella Jones Corporation
- j. Authorize the General Manager to execute an Agreement, not to exceed \$50,000, with Downey Brand, LLP, for an independent review of the Wildfire Risk Reduction and Asset Protection Project Environmental Impact Report.

- k. Authorize Purchase of Server Room Equipment from ATS Communications in the amount of \$44,108 plus shipping and tax.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Nicholas Goulette	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

## 6. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

None

- b. Election of Board Member to serve as Clerk of the Trinity Public Utilities District Board of Directors for the remainder of Calendar Year 2022

Director Gant nominated Director Johnson to serve as the Clerk of the Trinity Public Utilities District Board of Directors for the remainder of Calendar Year 2022. Director Johnson accepted the nomination. The Board thanked Director Johnson.

- c. Adopt Proposed Fiscal Year 22/23 Mission Statement and Goals, Budget, and Five-Year Financial Forecast

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. After a discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to Adopt the Fiscal Year 22/23 Mission Statement and Goals, Budget, and Five-Year Financial Forecast. Director Johnson seconded the motion. Director Gant inquired how much cost inflation was included in the budget. Ms. Catanese responded that every line item is based on history and discussion with staff. Director Rourke commented that part of the \$9 million loan was intended to supplement the District until the Rate increases are fully implemented. Ms. Catanese concurred and advised that many of the Capital Improvement Projects the loan is intended for are underway as well. Director Gant inquired on the status of new fleet equipment. Ms. Catanese advised it has been ordered. The Board thanked Ms. Catanese for her work.

The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Nicholas Goulette	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

- d. Rescind Bargaining Unit Employees Performing Non-Bargaining Unit Work Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Gant made a motion to rescind the District's Bargaining Unit Employees Performing Non-Bargaining Unit Work Policy. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Richard Morris	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

e. Amend Claims Against the District Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Goulette made a motion to Amend the Claims Against the District Policy. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Nicholas Goulette	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

f. Adopt Resolution 22-09 Ordering Board of Directors Election; Consolidation of Elections; and Specifications of Elections Order

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Gant made a motion to Adopt Resolution 22-09 to Consolidate the Election of District Officers with the November 8, 2022, General Election and to require each candidate submitting a Candidate Statement to pay the County's estimated cost of \$275 for a Candidate Statement. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Nicholas Goulette	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

g. Amend the District's Conflict of Interest Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a discussion, Director Goulette made a motion to Amend the District's Conflict of Interest Policy. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Nicholas Goulette	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

## 7. Reports:

a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update

Mr. DeLange reviewed the Report, attached and incorporated herein, with the Board. He advised there has recently been a slow down on pole inspections and advised that the District continues to install fault tamers on poles that require clearance. The District has adjusted Reclosers to non-test for fire season, which may result in more outages. Mr. DeLange advised that he has requested that Silver Top increase crews to ramp up tree removals.

Mr. Hauser stated that the graph really helps show the shift in work to more large trees. The District has reached out to Jurin Construction for a potential agreement to expedite removal of larger trees.

Director Johnson inquired how often does the District collect LiDAR. Mr. DeLange advised that the District is still in the beginning stages of data acquisition, but has contracted with an organization called AiDASH on a pilot program for Vegetation Management using satellite imagery.

b. General Managers Reports:

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser advised that the United States Forest Service recently made contact advising that there has been some progress on getting the legal description of the site which will allow the land exchange to move forward with an appraisal.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California

Mr. Hauser advised that rolling black-outs are likely in California for Summer 2022.

- Power Outages

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report, attached and incorporated herein, with the Board. Mr. Garcia advised that there is a maintenance outage scheduled for Sunday, July 24, 2022, which will affect customers on the Weaverville 1102 Circuit (Oregon Mountain and Junction City), Big Bar, Hyampom and Grouse Creek. Crews will begin the Weaverville 1102 Reconductoring Project (Project). Mr. Garcia informed the Board that the District will be receiving mutual aid from other utilities to assist with the Project.

- Right-of-Way (ROW) Project Update

Mr. Hauser advised that there is no update on the ROW Project since the last meeting.

- Cal Fire Grant

Mr. Hauser advised that the District was unsuccessful in its recent application for a Cal Fire Fuels Reduction Grant and will be scheduling a meeting with Cal Fire to discuss any shortcomings in its application. Mr. Underwood advised that there will be more Cal Fire funding across the Board. Director Cousins recommended partnering with other agencies on future applications. Director Goulette agreed with Director Cousins and suggested possibly applying for Forest Health funding.

- GIS Re-Survey Project

Mr. Hauser advised that GEOSI is wrapping up the last of the surveying work and the initial data import has been completed. A presentation will be scheduled at a future Board Meeting.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee

None

- Ad-hoc Public Communications Committee

None

d. Board Member Reports

Director Johnson advised that he had spoken with Jeff Morris at the Trinity County Office of Education regarding the potential of some of the Districts acquiring electric buses. Mr. Hauser advised that he had been contacted by Superintendent Green regarding the topic as well.

Director Johnson advised that the District had been listed as unresponsive at a recent Technical Advisory Committee as part of Trinity County's General Plan Update. Mr. Hauser advised that the District had not been contacted, as far as he knew, to participate. Supervisor Cox advised that there had been some communication issues for the meeting schedules and that she believes they have been resolved for future meetings.

Director Gant shared that she had recently watched a Practical Engineering series on power distribution that she would like to share with the group. New Board Members in particular may find it valuable

Director Cousins advised that he recently attended the Northwest Public Power Meeting in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, along with Ms. Sheetz. He stated that he enjoyed the topics discussed and thought the conference was valuable.

Director Goulette inquired if there is a process for adding topics to future Board Meetings. Mr. Hauser advised Board Members are welcome to inquire with President Rourke or with him on potential topics.

**8. Discussion Items**

None

**9. Communications Received**

The District received correspondence received from The Watershed Center thanking it for sponsorship of it's youth summer camp.

**10. Meetings and/or Workshops**

None

**11. Public Input**

James Aven stated that there is a Trail Clean-Up Day for the West Weaver Creek trail System scheduled for Saturday, June 18, 2022 and invited the District's participation.

The Board took a brief recess at 3:16 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 3:29 p.m.

**12. Closed Session**

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**  
Two Potential Cases  
No Reportable Action
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**  
Claimant: Jean and Alfred Baldocchi  
No Reportable Action
- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  
Agency Negotiator: General Manager  
Employee Organization: Trinity Public Utilities District Employees Association  
No Reportable Action
- d. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6  
**Conference with Labor Negotiator**  
Agency Negotiator: General Manager  
Employee Organization: Teamsters Local 137

Director Gant made a motion to approve the proposed Agreement with Teamsters Local 137 as presented to include an eight (8) percent pay increase in 2022, and three (3) percent pay increases in 2023, 2024, and 2025 for the represented employees. Director Goulette seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Kelli Gant	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-No
Nicholas Goulette	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye

e. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6

**Conference with Labor Negotiator**

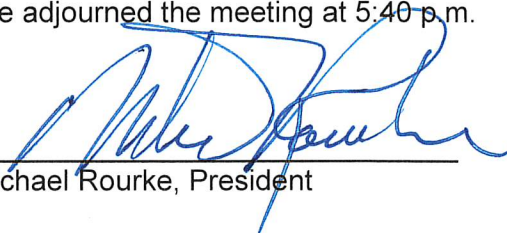
Agency Negotiator: General Manager

Employee Organization: Unrepresented


No Reportable Action

**13. Adjournment**

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Johnson, Clerk

7a

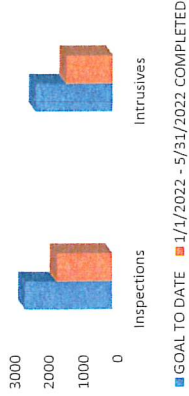
**Wildfire Mitigation Efforts  
2022 - Report to Date (5/31/2022)**

**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)

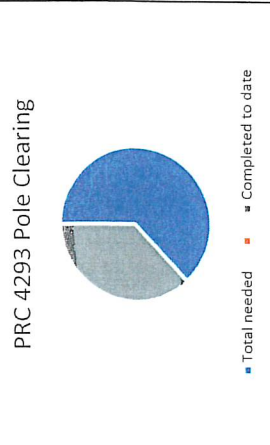
Date	GOAL TO DATE	1/1/2022 - 5/31/2022 COMPLETED
Inspections	2549	1,611
Intrusives	2260	1,347
Poles Reported Damaged		319
Work Orders Completed		129

Inspections and Intrusives

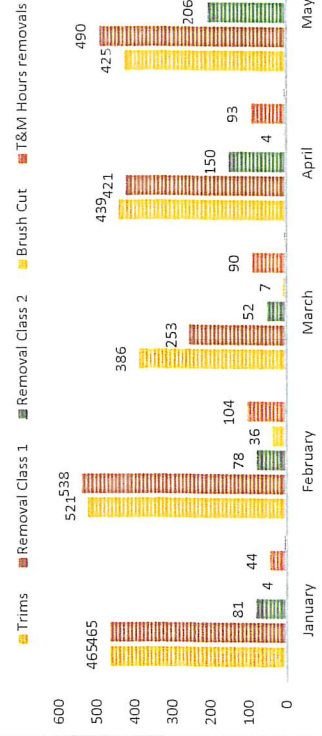


	January	February	March	April	May
Trims	465	521	386	439	425
Removal Class 1	465	538	253	421	490
Removal Class 2	81	78	52	150	206
Brush Cut	4	36	7	4	45
T&M Hours removals	44	104	90	93	160

PRC 4292 Pole Clearing	Watkins tree service
Total needed	917
Completed to date	537



**TREE WORK BY THE NUMBERS**



Due to the exceptional tree mortality Trinity County is experiencing additional crews are going to be added to try and keep up with dead trees

OUTAGE SUMMARY										
May 10, 2022 - June 7, 2022										
OUTAGE	TIME OFF	TIME ON	SUB	LOCATION	FEEDER	# OUT	LENGTH	TYPE	CAUSE	EQUIPMENT
215792	6/6/2022 6:51	6/6/2022 9:11	WAPA Trinity	No. County	T21	576	2:19	Line Section	Contractor caused	OH Conductor
215364	6/1/2022 8:00	6/1/2022 12:48	WAPA Trinity	Covington	T21	90	4:48	Line Section	Maintenance-Planned	Maintenance-Planned
215469	5/31/2022 11:23	5/31/2022 14:00	Mill Street	Junction City	W02	91	2:36	Line Section	Tree	OH Conductor
215264	5/26/2022 8:00	5/26/2022 11:30	Mill Street	Sky Ranch Rd.	W02	56	3:30	Line Section	Maintenance-Planned	Maintenance-Planned
215246	5/20/2022 10:39	5/20/2022 13:50	Hayfork	Hayfork	HF3	1022	3:11	Line Section	Tree	OH Conductor
215180	5/16/2022 13:23	5/16/2022 19:36	WAPA Trinity	Trinity Alps Res	T21	746	6:12	Line Section	Equipment failure	Transformer