

Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
May 11, 2023

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

Board Present: Amanda Barragar, Alex Cousins, Nicholas Goulette, Andrew Johnson,
Michael Rourke

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Mike Garcia, Julie Catanese, David
DeLange, Sarah Sheetz and Jim Aven

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

2. Approval of the Agenda Order

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

Ayes: Amanda Barragar, Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andy Johnson,
Mike Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. Public Input

None

4. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting April 13, 2023
- b. Accept Minutes of the Safety Meeting May 2, 2023
- c. Validate Bills of April, 2023
- d. Approve Financial Reports for March, 2023

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Amanda Barragar, Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andy Johnson,
Mike Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

5. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar
None

- b. Review and Approve the District's Renewable Portfolio Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Cousins made a motion to keep the current Renewable Portfolio Policy without any changes. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Amanda Barragar, Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andy Johnson,
Mike Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

c. Approve Declaration of Surplus Vehicle and Authorize Disposal

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Director Johnson made a motion to approve the declaration of the 2015 Ford Pickup as surplus and authorized the General Manager to proceed with disposal utilizing J.J. Kane Auctioneers. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Amanda Barragar, Alex Cousins Nick Goulette, Andy Johnson,
Mike Rourke
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

d. Authorize Vehicle Purchase

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Director Goulette made a motion to make a determination that an emergency existed and to approve the purchase of the 2022 Ram 2500 Crew Cab 4WD for a total cost of \$66,810. Director Barragar seconded the motion. The Board requested that a policy be brought back for future consideration to address signature authority and spending limits. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Amanda Barragar, Alex Cousins Nick Goulette, Andy Johnson,
Mike Rourke
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

e. Fiscal Year 23/24 Budget Assumptions and District Goals

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. A discussion ensued regarding the following topics: the Drought Relief Surcharge and water year designation; the load growth rate included in the budget; the pending Land Exchange and potential expense and whether that should be included in the Budget for Fiscal Year 23/24; budgeting for inflation; reporting on fiscal year objectives; exploring options relative to reliability; the Power Revenue Requirement; and Trinity Reservoir water transfers. Director Goulette proposed that Goal Number 2, Object Number 4 be updated to read:

4. Minimize impact to District customers from changes in Trinity River water management; ensure that decision-makers and customers are aware of such impacts.

Director Cousins made a motion to Amend the District Goals for Fiscal Year 23/24 as proposed by Director Goulette, Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Amanda Barragar, Alex Cousins Nick Goulette, Andy Johnson,
Mike Rourke
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

6. Reports:

a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update

Mr. DeLange advised that a revised Wildfire Mitigation Plan will be presented at the June 8, 2023 meeting. He provided a status update on patrol inspections, tree trimming and additional drone pilots.

b. General Managers Reports:

- Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser advised that an agreement with an appraiser has been executed and that the project may be complete by December 2023. Director Cousins inquired on the zoning for the parcel and suggested addressing the topic, if needed, prior to the project completion.

- Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser advised that activities are ramping up for BANC moving into the Energy Day Ahead Market (EDAM). BANC members have historically paid \$50,000 per year, from which the District is held harmless because we do not create any imbalance. The load charges for the EDAM are estimated at \$250,000 per year. Mr. Hauser will continue to stay actively engaged with BANC to ensure that additional expenses are not passed on to the District and its customers.

- Power Outages – April 2023

Mr. Hauser advised that the April Outage Summary was very short. Mr. Garcia advised that PG&E requested clearances on the Mill Street 1102 Circuit that serves Junction City on May 20, 2023 and June 3, 2023. The District will take advantage of the outages to continue work on reconductoring the circuit.

- Right-of-Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser provided an update on the Right-of-Way Project and advised that a Draft Report is expected in August/September 2023. Director Cousins inquired as to when the Board could expect to see alternatives in the Project.

- Voting Delegate Assignments

Mr. Hauser advised that two upcoming meetings require the Board to designate a delegate. He suggested that for the Northwest Public Power Association Conference the Board designate Alex Cousins as the delegate and Sarah Sheetz as the alternate; and for the Cooperative Response Center Board Elections the Board designate Sarah Sheetz as the voting delegate and Paul Hauser as the alternate. The Board concurred.

- Grid Resiliency Money

Mr. Hauser advised that the Grid Resiliency Program through which the District had been seeking funding support for a looped feed requires a thirty percent local match. It is unlikely that a funding source will be identified as the overall project cost is estimated at \$100,000,000. The Western Area Power Administration has committed to replacing the wooden poles on the radial feed with steel poles, which will improve reliability.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee

None

- Ad-hoc United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Loan Committee

Director Goulette advised that he and Director Cousins had met and discussed potential options for moving forward with the project.

d. Board Member Reports

Director Barragar reported on recent work near her residence in Junction City.

7. **Discussion Items**

Trinity River Flows, Ad-hoc Committee

Director Cousins stated that he would like the Board to be more educated about the impact of Trinity River Flows and that an Ad-Hoc Committee is a potential avenue, especially in the event that Mr. Hauser could not attend meetings. Mr. Hauser advised that he has been engaged in the topic since starting at the District 12 years ago and that he will remain engaged regardless of the time it takes. Director Goulette requested more information about the impact of river flows on future power costs. Director Hauser advised that if there is a benefit to Trinity County that does not result in a decrease in power generation the District has no opposition. Director Cousins advised that the Board had not been informed about the current Reconsultation. Mr. Hauser advised that he was not included on the original meeting invitation from the organizers, and to his knowledge neither were any other power customers. Director Goulette suggested that perhaps a resolution would be to add this topic to the General Manager's Report for ongoing education. Director Johnson requested that the Agenda and links to the 2021 Endangered Species Act Reinitiation of Section 7 Consultation on the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project be circulated to the Board (attached and incorporated herein).

8. **Communications Received**

None

9. **Meetings and/or Workshops**

a. Northwest Public Power Association – Annual Conference

Anchorage, AK

May 14-17, 2023

Ms. Sheetz will attend.

b. Golden State Power Cooperative Annual Meeting

Whitney Peak Hotel, Reno, NV

October 23-24, 2023

Mr. Hauser requested that Board Members let Ms. Sheetz know if they would like to attend.

10. **Public Input**

None

The Board took a brief recess at 3:45 p.m. and reconvened in Closed Session at 3:50 p.m.

11. **Closed Session**

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code Section 54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

One Potential Case

No Reportable Action

b. Closed session Item Under Government Code Section 54956.9

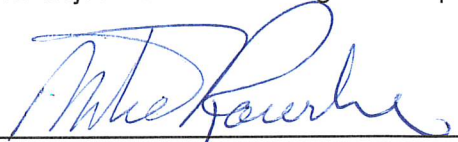
Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Claimant: California Fair Plan Association


No Reportable Action

- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code Section 54956.9
Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Claimant: Jean and Alfred Baldocchi
No Reportable Action

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.



Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: 

Andrew Johnson, Clerk

**2021 Endangered Species Act Reinitiation of Section 7 Consultation on
the Long-Term Operation of the
Central Valley Project and State Water Project
Trinity Division Interested Parties Meeting**

Date: Friday, May 12, 2023

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Link: Microsoft Teams
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 211 594 866 786
Passcode: PZE5U3

Telephone Only:
[+1 213-493-7443,,92635424#](#)
Phone Conference ID: 926 354 24#

Agenda

- 1:00 – 1:15** Welcome and Introductions – *Ellen Blair, Facilitator*
- 1:15 – 2:45** Review Conceptual *Alternatives* – *Mike Dixon, Reclamation*
- 2:45 – 3:00** Next Steps – *Jo Anna Beck & Mike Dixon, Reclamation*