

**Trinity Public Utilities District  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD  
JULY 11, 2024**

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, Sarah  
Sheetz, David DeLange, James Aven, Jill Cox and Josh Cozine

**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 Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**3. Public Input**

None

**4. Consent Calendar**

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting June 13, 2024
- b. Validate Bills of June, 2024
- c. Approve Financial Reports for May, 2024

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**5. Action Items**

a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

None

b. Approve Unrepresented Employees Salary Schedule

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

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

c. Amend the Payment of Payables Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Barragar made a motion to Amend the Payment of Payables Policy as presented. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

d. Amend the Reference to Office Supervisor Policy

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Goulette made a motion to amend the Reference to Office Supervisor Policy as presented. Director Barragar seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

e. Adopt Resolution 24-04 Designation of Agent for Non-State Agency

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Barragar made a motion Adopt Resolution 24-04, Designation of District Agent as presented. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Amanda Barragar -aye  
Alex Cousins -aye  
Nick Goulette -aye  
Andy Johnson -aye  
Mike Rourke -aye

**6. Reports:**

a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update – June 2024

Mr. DeLange provided an update on the WMP Metrics for June 2024. Inspections are currently behind schedule, but line crews have been doing an excellent job with 151 poles installed this year to date. Tree crews have also been very productive, with plans to increase work upon notification of a grant agreement from the United States Department of Agriculture and/or California State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

b. General Managers Reports:

i. Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser advised there is no update on the Land Exchange

ii. Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser reported that the Energy Day Ahead Market continues to move forward slowly. The current forecast is for implementation by Spring of 2027.

iii. Power Outage Summary – June 2024

Mr. Hauser reviewed the power outage summary, noting two animal caused outages, one of which was a squirrel, and one of which was a horse.

iv. Right-of-Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser reported that the agencies have provided comments on the latest round of the Right-of-Way project.

v. Grants Update

Ms. Sheetz provided an update on the status of recent grant applications:

- United States Department of Agriculture, Community Wildfire Defense Grant approximately \$9.5 million – all requested documentation submitted and under review by the program manager.
- Community Facilities Grant (Sno Cat) – approximately \$240,000 – all requested documentation submitted and under review by program manager.
- Community Facilities Grant (Fault Tamers) – approximately \$300,000 – the District has been notified that the application has moved on to the next round.
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – Wildfire Prevention Grant – Approximately \$1.9 million – application has been submitted and project awards are pending.

vi. Heat Wave

Mr. Hauser reported that BANC has had ongoing discussions regarding the current heat wave to ensure resource adequacy throughout the state. From a supply standpoint California is in good shape, due to good reservoir storage. The Bureau of Reclamation can ramp up production at hydro facilities to meet demand. There is not a significant threat of rolling black outs or curtailments at this time. Director Johnson inquired about Public Safety Power Shut Offs in other parts of the State. Mr. Hauser advised that there haven't been as many so far this year, but in the latter part of summer the practice may be implemented more frequently.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee  
None

d. Board Member Reports

Director Goulette updated the Board on the upper Trinity River focused forest partnership. The Watershed Center was awarded \$6.1 million and the Trinity County Resource Conservation District was awarded \$8-10 million for forest health treatment work. He advised that the Watershed Center is in the early stages of

pursuing a forest resilience bond. The Watershed Center is scheduled to close on the acquisition of 11,000 acres of timberland in the upper Trinity River watershed and is pursuing the formation of a new Trinity County Land Trust to operate its properties.

President Rourke advised that the Trinity County Fair is underway, with many local youth participating.

Director Cousins advised that he would be attending the Trinity County Fair Junior Livestock Auction, and inquired if the Board would like to participate in the auction again this year.

Director Cousins commented on a letter (attached and incorporated herein by reference) that the Northwest Public Power Association submitted to the House Committee on Agriculture on behalf of many utilities in the Pacific Northwest, including Trinity PUD, supporting the Fire Safe Electrical Corridors Act as well as Representative LaMalfa's amendment to the Act.

**7. Discussion Item**

None

**8. Communications Received**

None

**9. Meetings and/or Workshops**

- a. Golden State Power Cooperative – Annual Conference  
Sacramento, CA  
September 23, 2024
  
- b. National Rural Electric Cooperative Association – Region 7/9 Meeting  
Sacramento, CA  
September 24-26, 2024
  
- c. Northern California Power Agency Annual Conference  
Napa, CA  
September 24-27, 2024

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

**10. Public Input**

None

**The Board took a brief recess at 2:29 p.m. and then entered into Closed Session at 2:35 p.m.**

**11. Closed Session**

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code Section 54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**  
*No Reportable Action*

**12. Adjournment**

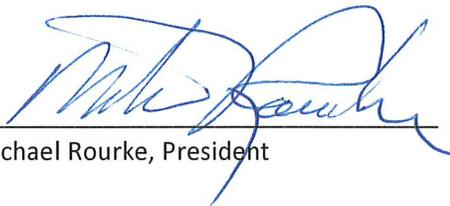
There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

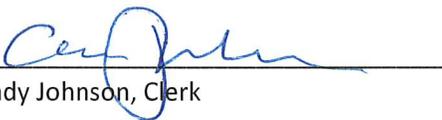
/s/ Michael Rourke  
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: /s/ Andrew Johnson  
Andrew Johnson, Clerk

**Trinity Public Utilities District**  
**Nonrepresented Employees - Bi-weekly Salary Schedule**  
**Effective for Pay Period Beginning June 23, 2024**

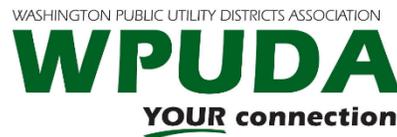
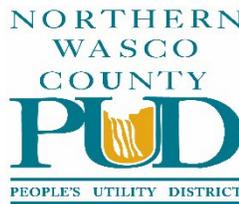
	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
General Manager	9.3.2023	\$ 10,611.61	\$ 10,611.61
Assistant General Manager	6.23.2024	\$ 7,447.50	\$ 7,447.50
Electric Superintendent	6.23.2024	\$ 8,927.75	\$ 8,927.75
Assistant Electric Superintendent	6.23.2024	\$ 7,447.50	\$ 7,447.50
Chief Financial Officer	6.23.2024	\$ 7,788.85	\$ 7,788.85
System Engineer	6.23.2024	\$ 6,640.47	\$ 6,640.47

Approved:   
Michael Rourke, President

Attested:   
Andy Johnson, Clerk



CHELAN COUNTY



July 09, 2024

The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Committee Chairman  
House Committee on Agriculture  
1301 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Scott  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Agriculture  
1010 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Scott:

We write to express our deep concern regarding the escalating threat of catastrophic wildfires across the nation. The devastating impact on communities is evident, but it is equally critical to recognize the uninsurable risk faced by not-for-profit utilities that serve these areas. As representatives of over five million electric customers across 10 Western states, we are committed to addressing this urgent issue.

The financial peril posed by wildfires to nearby communities and not-for-profit utilities cannot be overstated. These utilities are acutely aware that a single wildfire could lead to both physical devastation and financial ruin and are taking all steps within their control to mitigate the risk of wildfire. Community-owned utilities operate with limited financial resources, necessitating sensible reforms in wildfire management for their survival.

While human-caused sparks may ignite wildfires, the true determinants of destruction lie in extreme weather events, changing environmental conditions, and inadequate land management on federal properties. That is why **we commend the House Committee on Agriculture for incorporating provisions from H.R. 6012, the Fire Safe Electrical Corridors Act, into the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 (Farm Bill). This inclusion allows utilities to remove trees and debris around transmission lines on U.S. Forest Service lands without requiring a timber sale.** Such language represents a significant and positive step toward managing wildfire threats effectively by removing fuel for fires.

Additionally, **we strongly support Rep. Doug LaMalfa's amendment, which provides a categorical exclusion for electric utility lines' right-of-way. This exclusion facilitates vegetation management, facility inspection, and operation and maintenance plans, further empowering utilities to mitigate wildfire risks.**

While we recognize that completing the Farm Bill requires further effort, we urge you to consider the impact of these changes on utilities struggling to secure wildfire insurance. As you work to reconcile differences with the U.S. Senate, please count us as a valuable resource on these matters.

Thank you for your commitment to safeguarding communities and supporting not-for-profit utilities. We appreciate the inclusion of both the Fire Safe Electrical Corridors Act and Rep. LaMalfa's amendment in the House Committee on Agriculture-passed Farm Bill.

Sincerely,



Kurt W. Miller, Executive Director  
Northwest Public Power Association

On behalf of:

Alaska Power Association  
Chelan County Public Utility District  
Consumers Power Inc.  
Flathead Electric Cooperative  
Golden State Power Cooperative

Inland Power  
Mason County Public Utility District #1  
Northern Wasco County People's Utility District  
Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association  
Oregon People's Utility District Association  
Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association  
Tacoma Power  
Trinity Public Utilities District  
Washington Public Utility Districts Association  
Wyoming's Electric Cooperatives

cc: Representative Doug LaMalfa  
Representative Lori Chavez-Deremer  
Representative Andrea Salinas  
Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez