

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
SEPTEMBER 12, 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 and James 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 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 Cousins made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Johnson requested that Item 4c. Validate Bills of August, 2024, be pulled. Director Cousins amended his motion to approve the Consent Calendar excepting Item 4c. Director Goulette seconded the motion. The Consent Calendar included:

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting August 8, 2024
- b. Accept Minutes of the Safety Meeting, August 20, 2024
- c. ~~Validate Bills of August, 2024~~
- d. Approve Financial Reports for July, 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
 - 4c. Validate Bills of August, 2024

Director Johnson inquired about a payment to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management in the amount of approximately \$30,000. Mr. Hauser advised that the payment was the second installment towards the review of the Wildfire Risk Reduction, Reliability and Asset Protection (WRAP) Project. Director Johnson inquired if there is a cap on the payments to the agencies for project review. Mr. Hauser advised that while there is an agreement in place, that if the

agency required additional funding to complete the review, it is likely the District would be obligated to pay. Director Goulette asked if the bills were detailed, Mr. Hauser advised they were not. Director Cousins made a motion to Validate the Bills of August, 2024. 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

- b. Adopt Resolution 24-05 to Amend the District's Flexible Spending Account Plan, Increasing the Annual Employee Contribution to \$3,200 for Calendar Year 2025
Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion, Director Goulette made a motion to Adopt Resolution 24-05 to amend the District's Flexible Spending Account Plan, increasing the annual employee contribution to \$3,200 and authorizing staff to execute the Amendment. 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

- c. Nomination of Two Board Members to the Community Investment Committee
Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Barragar nominated Alex Cousins and Nicholas Goulette to serve on the Community Investment Committee from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. 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

- d. Authorize Rebates and Advertisements for Public Power Week
Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board, noting that staff had updated the calculation of annual savings to District customers relative to Pacific Gas & Electric Rates, which had been calculated as \$10 million in 2011. In Fiscal Year 23-24, the savings was calculated at \$37 million. Following a brief discussion, Director Barragar made a motion to Authorize Rebates and Advertisements for Public Power Week requesting that the advertisement be modified to provide a more personal context to customers of how the \$37 million in savings affects monthly bills. Director Goulette 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

6. Reports:

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

Mr. DeLange advised that the Report included in the Board packet was inaccurate and an updated Report, attached and incorporated herein, was provided. Mr. DeLange advised that intrusive inspections are almost complete and that the District will be on-track for a 2 year inspection cycle in the near future. Director Cousins inquired if the annual patrol inspection goal was too high. Mr. DeLange advised that the backlog of incomplete work is more concerning than the inspection progress, but that crews have made tremendous progress this year on pole change outs.

b. General Managers Reports:

i. Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser advised that there is some work to be done by the Forest Service on the Land Exchange to record an easement prior to the property exchange.

ii. Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser reported that there has been some activity around the Energy Day Ahead Market (EDAM). The District is in receipt of written confirmation that the District will not face any additional costs of BANC entering EDAM. The current forecast is for implementation in the Spring of 2025.

iii. Power Outage Summary – August 2024

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Mr. DeLange brought a small branch that had been the cause of an outage on the circuit around Trinity Lake, noting that that the circuits recloser settings operated correctly shutting down the circuit as soon as contact was made. Mr. Garcia advised that the Western Area Power Administration has scheduled a Planned Outage for October 20, 2024, from 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The outage will affect Weaverville, Junction City and Hayfork as WAPA conducts work at the Weaverville Switchyard.

iv. Right-of-Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser provided an update on the Right of Way project. Noting that release of the Environmental Impact Report is expected on November 8, 2024.

v. Reinitiation of Consultation on the Long Term Operation (ROC on LTO) of the Central Valley Project

Mr. Hauser advised that the agencies are still indicating that this will be complete by December 2024, but it is difficult to determine if that date is accurate as there appears to be a lot of work to do.

vi. Grants Update

Ms. Sheetz advised that there have not been any updates from the funding agencies on the following grants:

- United States Department of Agriculture, Community Wildfire Defense Grant approximately \$9.5 million
- Community Facilities Grant (Sno Cat) – approximately \$240,000.
- Community Facilities Grant (Fault Tamers) – approximately \$300,000.
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – Wildfire Prevention Grant – Approximately \$1.9 million – the District is not on the list of awardees, the application still indicates ‘under review.’

vii. Public Power Week – Employee Recognition/Barbeque

Mr. Hauser reminded the Board of the Employee Recognition Event on October 3, 2024, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

viii. Wildfire Safety Advisory Board

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board has requested a visit to Trinity PUD on October 30, 2024. This is a nice opportunity to highlight what we are doing and show the constraints of a system like ours. Directors Cousins and Goulette expressed an interest in attending. Mr. Hauser will provide additional information as it becomes available.

ix. Solar Exemption Legislation

Mr. Hauser advised that while the District has qualified twice through the California Energy Commission’s exemption process to exempt customers in Trinity County from the solar rooftop mandate, the process is very cumbersome. Assemblymember Wood has been very helpful in getting a bill through the Senate and House that would provide a permanent exemption for Trinity County. The bill is currently awaiting the Governor’s signature.

x. Four Substations Contract

Mr. Hauser advised that the Agreement that allows use of Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) transmission to provide WAPA power to Forest Glen, Big Bar, Hyampom and Grouse Creek expires at the end of this calendar year. The District has had multiple meetings with PG&E regarding a new agreement. Mr. Hauser is now working with WAPA staff to move the four substations under the WAPA Interconnection Agreement, and to add the Mill Street Substation back into this interconnection agreement, which would provide some redundancy to the District’s system to accommodate for maintenance and emergencies.

xi. Humboldt Bay Offshore Wind Project

Mr. Hauser advised that he has met with two different potential bidders on the CAISO transmission project that would include installation of a 500kV line with a 250’ easement through parts of Trinity County to transmit offshore wind energy from the coast to load centers in the valley and south.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee
None

d. Board Member Reports

Director Cousins advised that he had an opportunity to spend time with Congressman Huffman and Congressman Schiff at a tour of the Trinity River Lumber Company mill.

7. Discussion Item

None

8. Communications Received

The Board received many thank you notes from community members.

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. Golden State Power Cooperative – Annual Conference
Sacramento, CA
September 23, 2024

President Rourke, Mr. Hauser and Ms. Sheetz plan to attend.

- 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 and Ms. Sheetz plan to attend.

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 3:05 p.m. and entered closed session at 3:15 p.m.

11. Closed Session

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6

Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiator: General Manager

Employee Organization: Unrepresented

No Reportable Action

- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code Section 54957.6

Conference with Labor Negotiator – Unrepresented, General Manager

The Board unanimously approved a one-time twelve percent incentive payment to the General Manager for fulfilling his annual goals, and unanimously approved a 4.5 percent cost of living increase to the General

Manager's base pay retroactive to his anniversary date of September 6, 2024.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

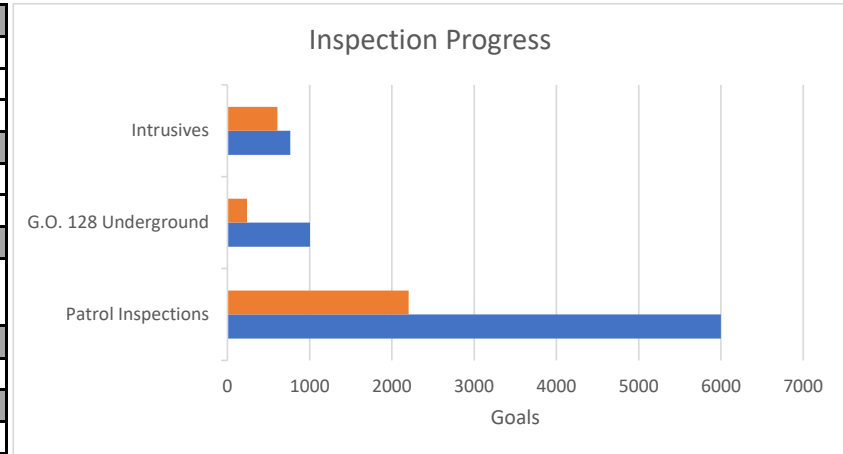
/s/ Michael Rourke
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: */s/ Andrew Johnson*
Andrew Johnson, Clerk

Wildfire Mitigation Reporting Metrics

August 31, 2024

Inspection Progress	ANNUAL GOAL	1/1/2024 - 8/31/2024
Patrol Inspections	6000	2,204
G.O. 128 Underground	1004	237
Intrusives	763	607
Work Order Progress (System Improvement)		1/1/2024 - 8/31/2024
Poles Reported Damaged		87
Work Orders Completed		256
Fault Tamer Installation	Identified	Total Completed
System Hardening Fault Tamer Cutouts installed	1456	591
PRC4292 Pole Clearing	Needed	Completed
	1048	1048
Legacy Attachments (Trees)	Identified	Completed
	16	7



Vegetation Management Data

SILVERTOP TREE SERVICE					
	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	YTD Totals
Trims	569	803	344	663	4816
Removal Class 1 (4"-12" dbh)	429	346	296	448	2902
Removal Class 2 (12"-24" dbh)	177	225	185	166	1347
Brush Cut (0"-4" dbh)	0	0	0	15	24
T&M Hours removals (>24" dbh)	422	310	326	425	2794
Storm Damage Crew Hrs	0	0	0	0	94

Cal Fire Conservation Crews working out Bowerman to Trinity Center

208 New Poles Installed to date

43 New or Upgraded Services to date