

**Trinity Public Utilities District  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OCTOBER 3, 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

**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, Andrew Johnson, Mike  
Rourke

Noes: None

Absent: Nick Goulette

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 September 12, 2024
- b. Validate Bills of September, 2024
- c. Approve Financial Reports for August, 2024

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: Nick Goulette

Abstain: None

**5. Action Items**

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar  
None

- b. Approve Declaration of Surplus Vehicle and Authorize Disposal

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Barragar made a motion to declare the 2014 International bucket truck as surplus to the District's needs, and allow the General Manager to proceed with disposal of the vehicle utilizing J.J. Kane Auctioneers. Director Cousins seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

Director Goulette joined the meeting.

## 6. Reports:

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

Mr. Delange reviewed the report with the board, highlighting that resources were dedicated to inspections in September 2024. The District sets the goal of inspecting half of the system each year and intends to keep that goal in the 2025 update to the Wildfire Mitigation Plan. Pole replacements are on track for a record year. There are currently four crews dedicated to hazard tree abatement and trimming. Mr. Delange noted that the system is in better shape than it has been in years.

The Wildfire Safety Advisory Board is planning to visit Trinity PUD on November 6, 2024. Staff intends to provide a tour of some of the most extreme conditions and to demonstrate the challenges of being a very small utility with a large service territory in difficult terrain.

### 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. Right of Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser reported that environmental work on the Right of Way Project continues to move forward.

#### iii. Balancing Authority of Northern California

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 from BANC entering EDAM. The current forecast is for implementation in the Spring of 2025.

#### iv. Power Outage Summary, September 2024

Mr. Hauser shared the power outage summary noting that there were very few outages in September, although the system will remain on 'one shot' until there is significant precipitation.

#### 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. Assembly Bill 1918 – Permanent Exemption to Rooftop Solar and Battery Storage Mandate

Mr. Hauser advised that the Governor vetoed the District's bill to provide a permanent exemption to the rooftop solar and battery storage mandates. A meeting will be scheduled with Edelstein Gilbert to see what type of follow up can be pursued.

vii. Federal Emergency Management Agency and California Office of Emergency Services – Payment received for California Severe Winter Storms beginning December 27, 2022

Mr. Hauser advised that the District is in receipt of in excess of \$2 million of public assistance funding for the Winter 2022/2023 Storms.

viii. Grants Update

Ms. Sheetz advised that there has been some progress on the Community Facilities Grant for the Sno-Cat. There has not been any activity on the \$9.5 million Community Wildfire Defense Grant or the \$300,000 Fault Tamers Grant application. The District has not received a response from CalFire regarding its \$1.9 million application, but several other applicants have been notified of award.

ix. Four Substations Contract

Mr. Hauser advised that the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) approved the District's request to include the Big Bar, Forest Glen, Grouse Creek and Hyampom under WAPA's interconnection agreement. The District is still negotiating standby service with PG&E at Mill Street Substation.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee  
None

d. Board Member Reports

President Rourke advised he attended the Golden State Power Cooperative Annual Meeting, noting some concern about the State Department of Water Resources Guidelines regarding utility system maintenance.

Director Johnson reported attendance at the State Grange Conference where a Resolution to establish a minimum lake level was adopted.

**7. Discussion Item**

None

**8. Communications Received**

The Board received a thank you letter from the Roderick Hayfork Senior Nutrition Center for the Trinity County Fair Livestock Auction donation.

**9. Meetings and/or Workshops**

- a. American Public Power Association, Legislative Rally  
Washington DC  
February 24-26, 2025

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 2:26 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 2:35 p.m.

**11. Closed Session**

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**  
*No Reportable Action*
  
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9  
**Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**  
Claimant: California Fair Plan Association  
*No Reportable Action*

**12. Adjournment**

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

*/s/ Michael Rourke*  
Michael Rourke, President

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