

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
DECEMBER 12, 2024**

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

Board Present: Alex Cousins, Nicholas Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Michael Rourke,
Joseph Trindade

Board Absent: None

Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Mike Garcia, Julie Catanese, Sarah
Sheetz, David DeLange, Delmont Senter, Francisco Martinezcuello,
Miroslav Shilev and Gus Kormeier

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: Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke,
Joe Trindade

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. Administer Oath of Office to Board Members Alex Cousins, Andy Johnson and Joe Trindade

Ms. Sheetz administered the Oath of Office to Board Members elected in the November 5, 2024 election.

4. Public Input

Miroslav Shilev, a customer on Oregon Street in Weaverville, inquired about the current rate on his electric account and requested consideration of a rate change to a lesser rate. President Rourke thanked Mr. Shilev for attending and advised that staff would review the account and respond to Mr. Shilev's request.

Gus Kormeier, a Property Manager with Bear Creek Property Management requested that the District consider modifying the Heat Pump and Hot Water Heater Rebate program to allow non-account holders to receive the rebate when improvements are made to their properties. He has several clients who own rental properties in the County, but reside elsewhere, so there is no account for the rebate to be applied, however the installation of electric heat pumps and hot water heaters benefit the tenants, which is the goal of the Policy. Mr. Hauser advised that the District does have the discretion to issue payments to Owners under these circumstances and has done so in the past.

5. 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 Regular Meeting, November 14, 2024
- b. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, December 3, 2024
- c. Validate Bills of November, 2024
- d. Approve Financial Reports for October 2024

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:	Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke, Joe Trindade
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

6. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar
None.

- b. Accept Auditors' Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2024, as prepared by Baker Tilly US, LLP

Mr. Hauser introduced Bethany Ryers, Principal with Baker Tilly US, LLP, who performed the District's Audit for Fiscal Year 23-24. Ms. Ryers advised that the Auditors have issued an Unmodified Opinion with no material deficiencies. Ms. Ryers went over the high points of the Report to Governance and advised that the role of the Auditor overall, is to provide reasonable assurance that financial statements are free from mistakes. She thanked staff for their responsiveness to the Auditor's requests for information. Following a brief discussion Director Goulette made a motion to accept the Auditors' Draft Report for Fiscal Year 23-24. Director Cousins seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes:	Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke, Joe Trindade
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

- c. Ratify No Change to Rate Schedule 10 – Public Benefit Discount Amount, and Increase the Discount Cap from 20% to 25% of eligible customers' energy charge for Calendar Year 2025.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Goulette made a motion to ratify no change to Rate Schedule No. 10, and to increase the current 20% cap to 25% of the customers energy charge for Calendar Year 2025. Director Johnson seconded the motion. Director Goulette inquired if he should abstain from the vote as the organization he runs potentially benefits from the increased discount. Mr. Underwood advised that since the Action did not apply only to the agency in question, that Mr. Goulette did not need to abstain.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke,
Joe Trindade
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

- d. Approve Contract with Evergreen Job & Safety Training in the amount of \$29,915 for Calendar Year 2025.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Cousins made a motion approve the Contract with Evergreen Job & Safety Training in the amount of \$29,915 for calendar year 2025. Director Trindade seconded the motion.

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke,
Joe Trindade
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

- e. Election of Officers of the Trinity Public Utilities District Board of Directors for Calendar Year 2025.

The Board unanimously elected the following slate of officers for Calendar Year 2025:

President – Mike Rourke
Vice President – Alex Cousins
Clerk – Nick Goulette

7. Reports:

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

Mr. DeLange provided summary of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Reporting Metrics for November 2024.

- b. General Managers Reports:

Mr. Hauser introduced Delmont Senter, who was recently promoted to Electric Superintendent and thanked Mike Garcia for his 31 years of service to the District.

i. Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that according to the United States Forest Service, the land exchange should be completed by the end of this year.

ii. Right of Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser reported that his expectation is that the Environment Impact Statement/Report will be released in Spring 2025.

iii. Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser advised that every utility in California is required to be a member of a balancing authority to match load throughout the State on a second by second basis. This requirement helps the state avoid energy shortages, which result in

brown and black outs. BANC is continuing to work towards the Cal ISO Extended Day Ahead Market (EDAM).

iv. Power Outage Summary, November 2024

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Outage Summary with the Board and advised that there were increased outages due to the November storm. All of the outages were handled by District crews, with no outside assistance from mutual aid partners.

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

Mr. Hauser reported that he participated on a call on this topic and that the expectation is that an Environmental Impact Statement is going to be released with an exception of the Trinity Division. Mr. Hauser stated that there is a significant impact on generation value based on the timing of releases. Any reduction in generation value has the potential to impact the cost of power for the District significantly, and also affects statewide carbon emissions.

vi. Carr Powerhouse

Mr. Hauser advised that the tunnels that carry water from Lewiston Lake to Carr Powerhouse are currently out for maintenance as a contractor works inside to patch concrete. It is anticipated that they will be back in service in March of 2025. Additionally, during a routine inspection at Carr they discovered that the bolts that connect the runner to the turbine shaft are highly corroded, the Bureau of Reclamation has undertaken replacement of the bolts while the tunnels are out of service and also plans to have that work done by March 2025. There is the potential of an impact to the Wholesale Power Cost due to lack of generation during this time frame.

vii. 2025 Meeting Calendar

Ms. Sheetz advised the 2025 Meeting Calendar is in the Agenda packet and that calendar notifications would be sent shortly.

viii. Grants Update

Ms. Sheetz advised that there has been little progress on the grant status for the following grants currently being tracked:

United States Department of Agriculture Community Wildfire Defense Grant, \$9.5 million.

Status: notified of award, agreement not yet executed.

Community Facilities Grant – Sno Cat acquisition, \$243,000.

Status: notified of award, agreement not yet executed.

Community Facilities Grant – Fault Tamers, \$300,000.

Status: application submitted.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee
None

d. Board Member Reports

Director Johnson advised that a constituent in the cryptocurrency business reached out to him regarding the High Impact Load Rate being applied to their account. He stated the customer didn't realize they were getting themselves into that category. Director Johnson inquired if the rate was applied to all commercial accounts. Mr. Hauser advised it is applied to all accounts that meet the criteria.

8. Discussion Item

None

9. Communications Received

None

10. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. California Municipal Utilities Association Capitol Day
Sacramento, CA
February 3, 2025
Ms. Sheetz will attend.

- b. American Public Power Association, Legislative Rally
Washington DC
February 23-26, 2025
Director Cousins, Director Johnson, Mr. Hauser and Ms. Sheetz will attend.

- c. California Municipal Utilities Association Annual Conference
Anaheim, CA
April 6-8, 2025

Mr. Hauser requested that Board Members let Ms. Sheetz know if they would like to attend any of the upcoming meetings.

11. Public Input

None

The Board took a brief recess at 3:22 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 3:30 p.m.

12. Closed Session

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9
Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Claimant: California Fair Plan Association

No Reportable Action

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

/s/ Michael Rourke
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: /s/ Nicholas Goulette
Nicholas Goulette, Clerk