

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
FEBRUARY 13, 2025**

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, Sarah Sheetz, Julie Catanese, David
DeLange, Delmont Senter, James Aven, Scott White and Franscisco
Martinezcuello

1. President Rourke called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda Order

Director Cousins made a motion to approve the Agenda Order. 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

3. Public Input

Scott White, a customer from Lewiston requested that the Board direct staff to work with him to resolve easement, rate and metering issues on his property. President Rourke requested that staff prepare a summary of the issues Mr. White presented to provide the Board with additional context at a future meeting.

4. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting, December 12, 2024
- b. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, January 7, 2025
- c. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, February 4, 2025
- d. Validate Bills of December, 2024
- e. Validate Bills of January, 2025
- f. Approve Financial Reports for November, 2024
- g. Approve Financial Reports for December, 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

5. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar
None

b. Approve Electric Service Contract at Hayfork High School for a Sawmill and Consider Funding the Project for Mountain Valley Unified School District

Mr. Hauser reviewed the report with the Board. Following a brief discussion Director Cousins made a motion to approve the Electric Service Contract with Mountain Valley Unified School District and to fully fund the project in the amount of \$48,216.77 with Public Benefit Funds. 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

6. Reports:

a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update – December 2024 and January 2025

Mr. DeLange provided a summary of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Reporting Metrics for December 2024 and January 2025.

b. General Managers Reports:

i. Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that the United States Forest Service (USFS) had advised that they would be completing the survey work by the end of Calendar Year 2024. The District has not had an update from the USFS in 2025.

ii. Right of Way Project Update

Mr. Hauser reported that the Right of Way Project is still moving forward, the document is being condensed. The environmental document is expected to be released in late Spring 2025.

iii. Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser reported that there have been some concerns among the BANC members that if a significant number of Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) employees were to accept retirement incentives, it may jeopardize balancing authority operations. There are some discussions of how BANC could help backfill the positions if this were to occur.

iv. Power Outage Summaries, December 2024 and January 2025

Mr. Hauser reviewed the summaries with the Board.

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

Mr. Hauser reported that there have not been any recent discussions on this topic. He advised that the tunnels that transport water from Lewiston Lake to the Carr Powerhouse are due to be back in operation March 28, 2025.

vi. Letter in Support of Siskiyou County's Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program

Jill Cox requested support for this regional planning grant, a copy of which was included in the agenda packet.

vii. System Engineer Position

Wes Scribner has accepted the System Engineer position. He will be starting on March 3, 2025.

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 funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (IIJA)
Status: notified of award, agreement partially executed

Community Facilities Grant – Sno Cat acquisition, \$236,140.
Status: notified of award, agreement not yet executed.

Community Facilities Grant – Fault Tamers, \$300,000.
Status: application submitted.

ix. Netfile – Form 700's

Ms. Sheetz reported that several Board Members have electronically completed their annual Statement of Economic Interest. Any that remain outstanding by the due date will be prepared for signature at the March meeting.

x. Trinity County Collaborative, Alert West Camera, Bonanza King Lookout

Ms. Sheetz reported on a meeting of the Trinity County Collaborative seeking funding for a Wildfire Alert Camera at the Bonanza King Lookout. The Camera is approximately \$50,000 to install and approximately \$2,500 month for maintenance and access to the footage.

Director Cousins suggested that the District continue the discussion. He inquired about how long the camera lasts, and if there are other areas in the County that would benefit from a camera.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee

Director Cousins suggested a presentation on utilizing goats for Vegetation Management. Mr. DeLange advised that a presentation could be arranged.

d. Board Member Reports

Director Trindade reported on a recent tour of the Carr Powerhouse at Whiskeytown Lake, provided by Kevin Jacobs of the Bureau of Reclamation.

President Rourke also attended the informative tour of Carr Powerhouse.

Director Goulette advised that the Watershed District has approximately \$12 million in the community fire protection funding for being held up. He did note that the State of California did pass the climate bond, which includes \$10 million in investments in climate resilience over the next five years.

Director Cousins advised he toured the Altadena Fire in the Los Angeles Area recently.

7. Discussion Item

American Public Power Association Legislative Rally – Lobbying Topics

The Board discussed the lobbying topics for the upcoming legislative rally in Washington DC.

8. Communications Received

Correspondence from Scott and Sheri White, Lewiston

President Rourke requested a write up for a future meeting.

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

- a. American Public Power Association, Legislative Rally
Washington DC
February 23-26, 2025
Director Cousins, Director Johnson, Mr. Hauser and Ms. Sheetz will attend.
- b. Golden State Power Cooperative Capitol Day
Sacramento, CA
March 4, 2025
Mr. Hauser and Ms. Sheetz will attend.
- c. California Municipal Utilities Association Annual Conference
Anaheim, CA
April 6-8, 2025
Mr. Hauser and Ms. Sheetz will attend.
- d. Northwest Public Power Association – Annual Conference
Santa Rosa, CA
May 19-22, 2025
Director Cousins, Mr. Hauser and Ms. Sheetz will attend.

10. Public Input

None

The Board took a brief recess at 4:15 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 4:22 p.m.

11. 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
- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9
Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Four Potential Case(s)
No Reportable Action

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

/s/ Michael Rourke
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: /s/ Nicholas Goulette
Nicholas Goulette, Clerk