

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
October 9, 2025**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room
26 Ponderosa Lane, Weaverville, California
Board Present: Alex Cousins, Michael Rourke, Joseph Trindade
Board Absent: Nick Goulette, Andy Johnson
Others Present: Paul Hauser, Jim Underwood, Sarah Sheetz, Julie Catanese, David DeLange, Delmont Senter, Wes Scribner, James Aven and Francisco Martinezcuello

1. President Rourke called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda Order

- a. 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, Mike Rourke, Joe Trindade
Noes: None
Absent: Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson
Abstain: None

3. Public Input

None

4. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting, September 11, 2025
- b. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, September 9, 2025
- c. Validate Bills of September 2025
- d. Approve Financial Reports for August 2025

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

5. Action Items

- a. Items Pulled from Consent Calendar
None

- b. Award Bid No. 25-B1, Utility Class Wood Poles, to Stella-Jones Corporation for a one-year term, with a one-year option to extend.

Mr. Hauser reviewed the Report with the Board. Following a brief discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to Award Bid No. 25-B1 to Stella Jones Corporation for a one-year term, with a one-year option to extend, and authorized the General Manager to execute the agreement. Director Trindade seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

Director Johnson arrived at the meeting.

6. Reports

- a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update – September 2025

Mr. DeLange reviewed the September 2025 Reporting Metrics with the Board, noting that the District is no longer on one-shot as fire season is coming to a close.

- b. General Manager's Reports

i. Land Exchange

Mr. Hauser reported that there has been no progress on the land exchange, as the federal government is currently shut down.

ii. Balancing Authority of Northern California (BANC)

Mr. Hauser reported that the process for BANC to move into the Extended Day Ahead Market continues to move forward slowly, with a target date in 2027. Membership in BANC saves the District up to \$2,000,000 per year vs. participation in the California Independent System Operator (ISO) by avoiding transmission charges.

iii. Power Outage Summary, September 2025

Mr. Hauser reviewed the power outage summary with the Board. Most of the outages were caused by lightning storms or maintenance.

iv. Right of Way Project Update

Mr. Delange advised that the District has begun work on the Right of Way Project. Work has begun on a large privately owned parcel, with a landowner who is a willing participant in removing trees near powerlines. The Timber Harvest Plan for the project includes a 50-foot buffer for defensible space around the District's Right of Way.

NWPPA Washington DC Trip –

Lobbying on the Fix our Forests Act – some provisions that would really help the District.

v. Grants Update

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

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Community Wildfire Defense Grant, \$9.5 million funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (IIJA)
Status: Staff had a kick-off meeting with ICF.

Community Facilities Grant – Sno Cat acquisition, \$236,140.
Status: Funds have been obligated, Sno Cat has been ordered.

Community Facilities Grant (FY 2026) – Fault Tamers, \$523,499
Status: Notified by Congressman Huffman’s office that this application is being moved forward, but has been reduced to \$360,000. Award is dependent on Congress passing a budget.

Cal Fire – Fuels Reduction Grant, \$950,000
Status: Application for a shaded fuel break on the 60kV line from Weaverville to Hayfork submitted and under review, expected notification in October/November 2025.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee

d. Board Member Reports

Director Cousins reported that he would be attending the Northwest Public Power Association Directors meeting virtually next week.

7. Discussion Item(s)

None

8. Communications Received

The Board received correspondence from the Trinity High School Boosters Club.

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

None

10. Public Input

None

The Board took a brief recess at 2:41 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 2:43 p.m.

11. Closed Session

- a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Claimant: Ivan and Elizabeth Vlahov

No Reportable Action

- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Three Potential Case(s)

No Reportable Action

- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6

Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

Board of Directors

Employee Organization:

Unrepresented – General Manager

No Reportable Action

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

/s/ Michael Rourke

Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: /s/ Nicholas Goulette

Nicholas Goulette, Clerk