

**Trinity Public Utilities District
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
September 10, 2026**

Location: Trinity Public Utilities District Community Room
26 Ponderosa Lane, Weaverville, California
Board Present: Alex Cousins, Michael Rourke, Joseph Trindade, Nicholas Goulette,
Andrew Johnson,
Board Absent: None
Others Present: Sarah Sheetz, Dawn MacLaren, Julie Catanese, Dave DeLange, Wes
Scribner, James Aven, Scott White, Herlinda Van, Kou Yang, Chris
Moore, Chris Losi, Lisa Wright, and Josh Cozine

1. President Rourke called the meeting to order at 2:01 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, Michael Rourke, Nick Goulette, Andrew
Johnson, Joe Trindade
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

3. Public Input

None

4. Consent Calendar

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

- a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting, August 13, 2026
- b. Accept Minutes of Safety Meeting, August 11, 2026
- c. Validate Bills of August 2026
- d. Approve Financial Reports for July 2026

The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

5. Action Items:

- a. Items Pulled from Consent
None
- b. Adopt Resolution 26-08 Resolution Amending the District's Flexible Spending Account Plan, Increasing the Annual Employee Contribution to \$3,400 for Calendar Year 2027

Ms. Sheetz reviewed the Report with the Board. Director Cousins made a motion to adopt Resolution 26-08 Resolution amending the District's Flexible Spending Account Plan, Increasing the Annual Employee Contribution to \$3,400 for Calendar Year 2027 as presented. Director Goulette seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye
Nick Goulette	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Joe Trindade	-Aye

c. Authorize Advertisements for Public Power Week, 2026

Ms. Sheetz reviewed the report with the Board. Following discussion, Director Trindade made a motion to authorize the Advertisements for Public Power Week, 2026. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

d. Approve Amendment to the Title 24 Assistant Program Policy

Ms. Sheetz reviewed the proposed amendments to the Title 24 Assistance Program with the Board. Director Goulette asked whether the proposed amendment would allow the General Manager to adjust the reimbursement amount in the future without additional Board approval. Ms. Sheetz confirmed that it would. Following a brief discussion, Director Johnson made a motion to approve the amendment to the Title 24 Assistant Program Policy as presented. Director Cousins seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

e. Approve Cost Modification with Aspen Environmental Group in the amount of \$50,000 to complete the Environmental work for the Wildfire Risk Reduction, Reliability and Asset Protection Project

Ms. Sheetz reviewed the proposed \$50,000 cost modification with Aspen Environmental with the Board. Discussion followed regarding the overall cost of the project, the number of previous contract amendments, and the anticipated project completion date of May 2027. Board members expressed concern regarding the continued increase in project costs and questioned whether additional funding requests could be expected before completion. The Board also discussed what impact, if any, declining the additional funding would have on the continuation of the work. Director Cousins made a motion to approve the Cost Modification with Aspen Environmental Group in the amount of \$50,000 to complete the Environmental work for the WRAP Project. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

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

f. Nomination of Two Board Members to serve on the Community Investment Committee

Ms. Sheetz reviewed the Report with the Board. The Board discussed the annual nomination of two Board members to serve on the Community Investment Committee. Director Cousins nominated himself and President Rourke, to serve on the Community Investment Committee from October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027. Director Trindade seconded the motion. The Nominees accepted the appointment. The motion passed with the following voice vote.

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

g. Consider Request to participate as a Co-Applicant on a Grant for the Project Development and Planning for the Post Mountain Electrification Project

Lisa Wright, CEO of Flowra; Chris Losi, contractor for Flowra; and Chris Moore, Cannabis for Conservation and Grant Lead, provided a presentation to the Board regarding the request for Trinity PUD to participate as a co-applicant on a grant for project development and planning for the Post Mountain Electrification Project. Members of the Post Mountain community also spoke in support of the project. The Board discussed the proposal at length and asked questions regarding the grant application timeline, the District's role and responsibilities as a co-applicant, potential financial obligations, project costs and impacts to residents, and the anticipated timeline for the project. The Board also discussed concerns regarding the limited time available for District staff and consultants to provide the information necessary for the grant application. Following discussion, Director Cousins made a motion to participate as a Co-Applicant on a Grant for the Project Development and Planning for the Post Mountain Electrification Project. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Alex Cousins	-Aye
Michael Rourke	-Aye
Nick Goulette	-Aye
Andrew Johnson	-Aye
Joe Trindade	-Aye

6. Reports:

a. Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Reporting Metrics Update –August 2026

Mr. DeLange provided a summary of the Wildfire Mitigation Plan Reporting Metrics for August 2026. He reported that the District is on track to meet its calendar-year goals by approximately the end of October and recognized the team for their continued progress and efforts.

b. General Managers Reports:

i. Land Exchange

Ms. Sheetz reported that there was no update on the Land Exchange.

ii. Balancing Authority of Northern California

Ms. Sheetz reported that the July and August BANC meetings were canceled; therefore, there was no update to report.

iii. Power Outage Summary, August 2026

Ms. Sheetz reviewed the Power Outage Summary with the Board and noted that the District remains on one-shot operations.

iv. Right-of-Way Project Update

Ms. Sheetz requested that further discussion of this matter be moved to Closed Session. She informed the Board that Tannery Gulch had been de-energized as of September 10, 2026 and that hazard tree removal was scheduled to begin the following week.

v. Grants Update

Mr. Delange reviewed the Community Wildfire Defense Grant Report with the Board, and provided the following update on various grant activities:

Cal Fire- Wildfire Prevention Grant,

The District applied for a \$950,000 grant and anticipates receiving an update on the application by October.

Fault Tamer Grant-

The District is awaiting delivery of the Fault Tamers and Fuses.

vi. Public Power Week-

Ms. Sheetz informed the Board that a Staff Appreciation Barbeque is scheduled for October 8, 2026 in conjunction with Public Power Week. Board members are invited to attend..

Ms. Sheetz reported that the Call to Order application currently used to access Board agendas and packets is being phased out and that access will continue to be available through the Call to Order website. Board members needing assistance with access were asked to contact Ms. MacLaren.

Ms. Sheetz also informed the Board that representatives from Edelstein Gilbert Robson & Smith are scheduled to visit the District October 20–21. Staff hopes to provide an opportunity during the visit to familiarize them with the District's rural service area.

Lastly, Ms. Sheetz informed the Board of a September 11 commemorative ceremony at Lee Fong Park honoring first responders and noted that Board members were invited to attend.

c. Committee Reports

- Ad-hoc Forestry Committee
None

d. Board Member Reports

Alex Cousins shared that he has been busy attending several Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA) meetings.

Nick Goulette reported that, due to issues with his candidate filing documents, he will not be a candidate for reelection to the Board. Director Goulette spoke positively of Ric Leutwyler who has filed for the open seat and expressed his confidence that the candidate would serve the District well. He added that, should an opportunity arise in the future, he would be interested in serving on the Board again.

7. Discussion Item

None

8. Communications Received

a. Correspondence Received

The Board received correspondence from Jackson Poburko and the Weaverville Waves Swim Team.

9. Meetings and/or Workshops

a. Golden State Power Cooperative – Annual Conference Capitol Day

Reno, NV

September 28-29, 2026

Ms. Sheetz and Ms. MacLaren will attend.

b. Northern California Power Agency Annual Conference

Olympic Valley, CA

September 23-25, 2026

Ms. Sheetz plans to attend

c. SB 827 Fiscal & Financial Workshop

McConnell Foundation Lema Ranch, Redding, CA

October 17, 2026

Ms. Sheetz asked Board members to notify Ms. MacLaren if they are interested in attending any of the upcoming training opportunities.

10. Public Input

James Aven commented that he recalled a time when residents of the Post Mountain community were opposed to bringing electricity to the area.

The Board took a brief recess at 3:56 p.m. and entered Closed Session at 4:00 p.m.

11. Closed Session

a. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54957.6

Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiator:

General Manager

Employee Organization:

Trinity Public Utilities District Employee Association

Director Cousins made a motion to approve a pay increase for Members of the Trinity Public Utilities District Employees Association of 7% in 2026, 6% in 2027, 5% in 2028, with the first increase effective August 30, 2026. Director Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Andrew Johnson, Mike Rourke, Joe Trindade,

Nick Goulette
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

- b. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation

McColm v. PG&E etal.

No Reportable Action

- c. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation

United States v. Trinity P.U.D.

No Reportable Action

- d. Closed Session Item Under Government Code §54956.9

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Three Potential Case(s)

Director Goulette made a motion to endorse Alternative 1 (no herbicide use) on the USFS Notice of Emergency Situation Determination for the Wildfire Risk Reduction, Reliability, and Asset Protection Project. Director Trindade seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following voice vote:

Ayes: Alex Cousins, Michael Rourke, Nick Goulette, Andrew Johnson, Joe Trindade

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Rourke adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

/d/ Michael Rourke
Michael Rourke, President

ATTEST: /d/ Nicholas Goulette
Nicholas Goulette, Clerk