

TRINITY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

December 19, 2023

Trinity County Library Meeting Room

351 Main Street, Weaverville

MINUTES

HYBRID In-Person and Virtual Teleconference

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcription of the proceedings and discussion associated with the business on the Commission's agenda; rather, what follows is a summary of the order of business and general nature of testimony, Commission deliberation, and action taken. Votes are shown in abbreviated format when unanimous (Ayes-Noes-Abstain).

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A. Roll Call

Chair Carpenter-Harris called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

Members present: Commissioners Anna Burke, Heidi Carpenter-Harris, Dan Frasier, Joseph Kasper, and Alternate Commissioner Todd Corbett (seated as voting member).

Members absent: Commissioners Liam Gogan, Jake Grossman-Crist, Andrew Johnson, and Alternate Commissioner Ric Leutwyler.

Staff Present: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer (EO), Krystle Heaney, Clerk/Analyst

2. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

No presentations were given.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes from the August 15, 2023 Commission Meeting.

B. Approval of 2024 Commission Meeting Schedule

Motion to approve the consent calendar was presented by Commissioner Kasper, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and passed by 5-0-0 voice vote.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

No public comment was provided.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

6. BUSINESS

A. Preview of Regional Fire Services Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

EO Santsche introduced the staff report and provided an overview of the process to date. This will be the first regional MSR/SOI Update for Trinity LAFCo and will include four separate agencies. The draft profiles for this meeting include Weaverville FPD and Douglas City CSD. EO Santsche proceeded to provide a brief summary of each agency.

Commissioners held discussion about the draft agency profiles and noted that the current SOI for Weaverville FPD appears to be smaller than the actual goodwill response area. Staff will be working with each District to accurately document where services are provided and recommend an appropriate SOI based on that information. Staff will also be reviewing current ISO ratings and sources of funding for each agency. Each agency will have an opportunity to review their draft agency profile prior to adoption by the Commission. The question was raised whether Commissioner Corbett could participate and vote on this matter. Staff stated that yes, he is able to vote under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act (CKH Act), which states that all commission members are to exercise their independent judgement and represent the interest of the public as a whole and not solely the interests of the appointing authority (GC section 56331.4). Furthermore, it states that representation

by a member or alternate of a district shall not disqualify, or be cause for disqualification of, the member or alternate from acting on a proposal affecting the district..." (GC Section 56336). There is no need for him to recuse himself.

The Commission held a discussion regarding Douglas City CSD and noted that the Fire Chief was in attendance. The District was established as a CSD, but they only provide fire services and have the same authority as a FPD. Originally formed in 1976 with annexation of Poker Bar/McIntyre Gulch and Blanchard Flat areas in 1987. The SOI is similar to the boundary and likely represents the originally proposed annexation areas that were modified prior to LAFCo approval. Douglas City is a volunteer district with the Chief receiving a monthly stipend. To complete the agency profile, additional information is needed including call volume and training levels. They are a fully donation-based agency and the Fire Chief indicated that there are no property taxes allocated to the District.

LAFCo staff will continue to work on the draft agency profiles and provide an update at the next Regular Commission meeting.

B. Expiring Commissioner Terms Update

EO Santsche introduced the staff report and provided an overview of expiring Commissioner terms. County members will be appointed in January 2024. Special District Seat 1 will be expiring in 2024 and Commissioner Kasper is resigning which means Seat 2 will be vacant. The alternate public member seat is also still vacant at this time.

Commissioner Kasper read his letter of resignation for the record and expressed a desire to continue on LAFCo if and when his circumstances change. The Commission thanked him for his service.

7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE (Information Only)

- A. CALAFCO Conference (October 18-20)
- B. CALAFCO Legislative Update

EO Santsche provided a brief overview of the CALAFCO conference in October and an explanation of the legislative update. She also noted that CALAFCO has a strong legislative committee. Commissioners commented that they are glad to see the legislative updates, especially the remote participation bills regarding changes to the Brown Act.

8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Kasper noted that he looked into funding sources for Post Mountain PUD but was unable to find a viable option. During the summer fires in Del Norte County, they were able to provide power with a community generator and this may be an option for Post Mountain. It may also be possible to install underground power lines.

EO Santsche noted that she has been receiving agendas from Post Mountain PUD and will be conducting an official status check in at the six-month mark (February 2024).

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Carpenter-Harris adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Colette Santsche
Executive Officer

Heidi Carpenter-Harris
Chair

DATE: _____

DATE: _____