

The Commission will hold a hybrid meeting which will allow public participation in person and online via Zoom video conference. Commissioners will attend in person in accordance with the Brown Act unless otherwise noticed or approved in accordance with AB 2449. Instructions for remote public participation are included below.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84393317666?pwd=eWR2TWg4bFc1MFhWVUNQazNSbUQxUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 9331 7666

Passcode: 740955

Call in: 1 (669) 900-6833

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

A. Roll Call

2. **PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS - None**

3. **CONSENT CALENDAR (Potential Action)**

A. Approval of Minutes from June 17, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

This portion of the meeting provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters not on the agenda, provided that the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the Commission. No action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. All statements that require a response will be referred to staff for reply in writing.

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS (Potential Action) - None**

6. **BUSINESS (Potential Action)**

A. Year-End Financial Report and Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2024-25

The Commission will review a year-end financial report and consider approving a budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2024-25 to accurately reflect actual revenues and expenditures.

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

8. **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The next LAFco meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at the Trinity County Library Meeting Room in Weaverville.

The Commission may take action upon any item listed on the agenda. Unless otherwise noted, items may be taken up at any time during the meeting.

All persons are invited to provide public testimony and submit written comments to the Commission. All written materials received by staff before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Commission. If you wish to submit written material at the meeting, please supply 10 copies.

Accessibility

The location of this meeting is wheelchair accessible. If other accommodations are required to assist a person with a disability to participate in the meeting, please contact the Executive Officer or Commission Clerk at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Disclosure & Disqualification Requirements

Any person or group of persons acting in concert who directly or indirectly contribute \$1,000 or more in support of or in opposition to a change of organization or reorganization that has been submitted to Trinity LAFCo must comply with the disclosure requirements of the Political Reform Act of 1974 applicable to local initiative measures to be submitted to the electorate. These requirements contain provisions for making disclosures of contributions and expenditures at specified intervals; they may be reviewed at Government Code §§56700.1 and 81000 *et seq.* Additional information about the requirements pertaining to local initiative measures to be presented to the electorate can be obtained by calling the Fair Political Practices Commission at (916) 322-5660.

A LAFCo Commissioner must disqualify herself or himself from voting on an application involving an "entitlement for use" (such as an annexation or sphere amendment) if, within the last twelve months, the Commissioner has received \$500 or more in campaign contributions from the applicant, any financially interested person who actively supports or opposes the application, or an agent (such as an attorney, engineer, or planning consultant) representing the applicant or an interested party. The law (Government Code Section 84308) also requires any applicant or other participant in a LAFCo proceeding to disclose the contribution amount and name of the recipient Commissioner on the official record of the proceeding.

Late-Distributed Materials. Any material submitted to the Commission after this agenda is posted will be made available for public inspection as soon as possible on the LAFCo website trinitylafco.org.

Contact LAFCo Staff. For additional information please contact krystle@trinitylafco.org.

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 Cox called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Members present: Commissioners Carpenter-Harris, Jill Cox, Grossman-Crist, Johnson, and Alternate Commissioner Kasper (seated as voting member).

Members absent: Commissioner Brownfield, Burke, and Corbett, Alternate Commissioners Gogan and Harper.

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

2. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Trinity Public Utilities District – Paul Hauser, General Manager

TPUD General Manager Paul Hauser provided an overview of the District's service area and current wildfire mitigation efforts. He noted that TPUD serves 80% of the Trinity County population but does not serve all areas of Trinity County, including downriver area (Salier), south county area (Mad River), and remote areas like Post Mountain remaining off-grid. Most of the county is classified as a high fire severity zone. In light of a previous fire claim that cost TPUD \$10 million, the District no longer carries wildfire insurance.

To reduce fire risk and potentially regain insurance coverage, TPUD is proposing to widen their standard right-of-way (ROW) from 20 feet to 130 feet—a move expected to reduce wildfire risk by nearly 95%. Undergrounding power lines was deemed cost-prohibitive at nearly \$1 billion. Environmental constraints, particularly in riparian zones, may limit the ability to implement full-width ROW expansions in all areas. CEQA/NEPA documentation is underway with anticipated completion next spring, although litigation is possible.

Hauser noted the District is pursuing approximately \$20 million in grant funding for implementation. TPUD is also exploring the feasibility of providing power to Post Mountain. Although a PG&E line crosses the area, a substation would be required. Serving the area would involve crossing U.S. Forest Service land, a potentially decade-long permitting process. Commissioner Kasper suggested exploring hydrogen-powered steam generators, which has garnered some community interest. Additional suggestions included pursuing partnerships with timber companies and seeking grants tied to wildfire mitigation, as the expanded ROW could function as a fire break.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes from April 15, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

No public comment was received.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Final Budget and Workplan for FY 2025-26

EO Santsche presented the final budget for fiscal year 2025-26, outlining current expenditures and the ongoing need to increase contributions to close the gap between revenues and expenses. There were no comments from Commissioners or the public.

Motion to adopt Resolution 25-05 approving the final FY 2025-26 LAFCo budget was presented by Commissioner Carpenter-Harris, seconded by Commissioner Kasper, and passed by 5-0-0 roll call vote.

6. BUSINESS

A. Strategic Planning Discussion: Strengthening LAFCo Coordination with Special Districts

EO Santsche introduced the strategic planning topic, noting the regional approach taken in recent fire service reviews and referencing the Fire Districts Advisory Committee (FDAC) White Paper on fire service funding. She stated that now is an opportune time to examine governance structures—including potential consolidations—and emphasized LAFCo's role in facilitating these discussions.

Commissioner Grossman-Crist discussed the operational limits of smaller departments, such as Hayfork, which cannot deploy personnel to other areas without compromising local coverage. He emphasized that current funding models—heavily reliant on volunteerism and community fundraising—are unsustainable. Suggestions included exploring hybrid paid-volunteer staffing models and examining successful service models from other jurisdictions.

Commissioner Carpenter-Harris identified insurance costs as a significant concern for departments like Salyer and questioned whether interdepartmental coordination could help reduce premiums. She noted that while small departments provide valuable local knowledge, there is a growing need for regional planning and shared support. Commissioner Kasper asked whether the Fire Chiefs Association could be leveraged to strengthen collaboration among departments.

EO Santsche confirmed that LAFCo can provide technical and planning assistance through municipal service reviews and pre-application support. Commissioners expressed strong interest in continuing LAFCo's focus on fire services.

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

EO Santsche noted that CALAFCO recently sent out a notice regarding several CALAFCO University sessions covering a wide range of topics that will be open to staff and Commissioners. Staff will forward this notice to Commissioners if they would like to attend.

8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Kasper noted his work on alternative power systems for Post Mountain PUD and that he is continuing to coordinate with the Board.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 5:42 pm.

ATTEST:

Krystle Brogna, Clerk

DATE: _____

AGENDA ITEM 6.A.

MEETING: August 19, 2025
TO: Trinity LAFCo Commissioners
FROM: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Year-End Financial Report and Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2024-25

BACKGROUND

On June 18, 2024, the Commission adopted the final budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 in accordance with the California Government Code Section 56381. At the close of each fiscal year, staff prepares a year-end financial report for the Commission's review. This report also includes a proposed budget amendment to ensure the FY 2024-25 budget accurately reflects actual revenues and expenditures.

DISCUSSION

This item presents a comparison of adopted budget amounts to actual FY 2024-25 revenues and expenditures. A detailed account-by-account breakdown is provided in Exhibit A. The table below summarizes the year-end totals:

Budget Item	Adopted FY 2024-25	Actual	Difference
Total Revenues	\$36,000	\$45,654.99	+\$9,654.99
Total Expenditures	\$49,900	\$55,454.13	+\$5,554.13
Operating Difference*	-\$13,900	-\$9,799.14	+\$4,100.86

**Negative Balance indicates use of Reserves*

Actual expenditures exceeded adopted amounts in several accounts:

- Professional & Specialized – Applications: Increase by \$7,000 (from \$5,000 to \$12,000 total)
- Publications & Legal Notices: Increase by \$50 (from \$500 to \$550 total)
- Transportation & Travel: Increase by \$150 (from \$1,500 to \$1,650 total)

An offsetting increase in LAFCo Fee Revenue is proposed, as application processing is on a full cost-recovery basis. Notably, two recent annexation applications from Trinity County Waterworks District generated \$11,557.50 in deposits, which covered all related costs, including BOE fees.

To balance these increases, reductions are proposed in Memberships and Office expenses. These adjustments would keep the amended budget's operating difference at the originally adopted level of \$13,900, despite the actual year-end operating difference being \$9,799.14. Figures remain preliminary pending final processing by the Auditor's Office.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and accept the FY 2024-25 year-end financial report and adopt Resolution 2025-06 approving the FY 2024-25 budget amendment.

Attachments:

Attachment A - Resolution No. 2025-06

Attachment B - Financial Summary and Proposed Budget Amendment

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-06

**APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25**

WHEREAS, the Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission is required by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 to adopt a final budget for the next fiscal year no later than June 15; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget was approved on June 18, 2024 by Resolution 2024-02; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer's report was presented to the Commission in the manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2025, the Commission heard and fully considered a staff report outlining the need for a budget amendment to adequately fund expenditures recorded in Fiscal Year 2024-25; and

WHEREAS, the Commission determined the proposed budget amendments were portrayed as accurately and appropriately as is possible.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The Commission hereby approves the amendments for Fiscal Year 2024-25 as outlined in Exhibit A.
2. The overall operating costs provided in the amended budget will allow the Commission to fulfill its regulatory and planning responsibilities as required under Government Code Section 56381(a).

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was introduced at a regular meeting of the Trinity LAFCo Commission on the 19th day of August, 2025, and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINS:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Colette Santsche
Executive Officer

Todd Corbett
Vice Chair

Trinity LAFCo Budget

Attachment B

Categories	Acct #	FY 2022/23	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2024/25	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
		Adopted Budget	Year End Actual	Amended Budget	Year End Actual	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	Year End Actual	Adopted Budget
Preliminary									
REVENUES:									
Interest	6601	-	2,257.84	-	3,839.06	-	-	2,597.13	-
LAFCo Fees (Applications)	8404	5,000	400.00	5,000	-	5,000	12,000	11,557.50	5,000
Cont From Other Agencies:									
County	9282	14,500	14,500.00	15,000	15,000.00	15,500	15,500	15,500.00	16,400
Indep Spec Districts	9285	14,500	14,697.49	15,000	14,281.08	15,500	15,500	16,000.36	16,400
TOTAL Revenues		\$ 34,000	\$ 31,855.33	\$ 35,000	\$ 33,120.14	\$ 36,000	\$ 43,000	\$ 45,655	\$ 37,800
EXPENDITURES:									
Memberships	2240	1,500	1,243.00	1,500	1,346.00	1,500	1,400	1,378.00	1,500
Office	2260	600	247.36	600	447.38	600	500	395.70	600
Professional & Specialized:	2300	45,800	16,283.75	59,800	53,492.99	45,800	52,800	51,557.50	45,800
- Staffing services		25,000	12,394.25	33,000	32,609.00	25,000	25,000	24,650.00	25,000
- MSR/SOI		15,000	3,717.00	21,000	20,591.00	15,000	15,000	15,350.00	15,000
- Applications		5,000	172.50	5,000	-	5,000	12,000	11,557.50	5,000
- Legal Counsel		500	-	500	-	500	500	-	500
- Web Service		300	-	300	292.99	300	300	-	300
Publications & Legal Notices	2500	500	84.92	550	428.12	500	550	514.91	500
Transportation & Travel	2750	1,500	597.50	1,500	615.00	1,500	1,650	1,608.02	1,500
Training	2756	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contrib to Non LAF Agency	3200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer Out		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL Expenditures		\$ 49,900	\$ 18,456.53	\$ 63,950	\$ 56,329.49	\$ 49,900	\$ 56,900	\$ 55,454.13	\$ 49,900
Operating Difference		\$ (15,900)	\$ 13,398.80	\$ (28,950)	\$ (23,209.35)	\$ (13,900)	\$ (13,900)	\$ (9,799.14)	\$ (12,100)
(Negative Balance Indicates Use of Reserves)									
FUND BALANCE/RESERVES									
Beginning Year Fund Balance		\$ 80,983		\$ 94,381		\$ 71,172			
Ending Year Fund Balance			\$ 94,381		\$ 71,172			\$ 61,373	