

Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
February 7, 2023 Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on January 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. Attending the meeting, were Division Three Director and Chairman Fred Schnebly, Division One Director and Vice Chairman Mark Hansen, Division Two Director Sherry Swanson, Division Four Director Bart Bland, Division Five Director Brad Haberman, Secretary Manager Urban Eberhart, Assistant Manager Kevin Eslinger, Field Supervisor Bob Main, Treasurer Stacy Berg, KRD Land Clerk/RRA Specialist Sara Vickers and Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower. Also present were KRD Landowners, Mark Charlton, and Dave McDaniel.

The agenda was approved with the addition of an executive session for reasons consistent with RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii). The motion was made by Director Haberman. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the January 10, 2023, Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Hansen. The second was made by Director Swanson. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: There was no public comment noted.

Water Master Report: As of February 7, 2023, the five reservoirs are at 47% capacity and the storage at 85.9% of average. Precipitation at the five reservoirs for February 1 to date is 3.0 inches, or 54% of average and 12% of the months overall average. The Sno Tel sites for the Upper Yakima Basin are reporting 91% of average and the Lower Basin Sites are reporting at 82% of average. A River Operations Meeting is scheduled for Thursday to get the next forecast.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Bob Main reported that there is one excavator working upstream of Naneum Creek. The second excavator is working in the area of Peterson Siphon removing trees. Vehicle maintenance is continuing with the remainder of the crew at the Kittitas Shop.

Secretary Manager's Activity Report: An engineering firm provided an estimate for the environmental work for the Ellensburg Property. The estimate had too broad of a scope of work and the KRD is working with the engineering firm to get

a more specific estimate. A significant portion of the insurance money was received for the Ellensburg Shop Fire. The KRDC has signed the letter of completion statement so the insurance company can finish the details of the insurance claim and send the final reimbursement payment.

Mr. Eberhart attended the 2023 Washington State Water Resource Association (WSWRA) Tri State Meeting virtually which was held in Portland, OR on January 27, 2023.

On February 15, 2023, Mr. Eberhart will present for the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP) to the Tri-Cities Leadership Group.

Director Hansen, Director Haberman and Mr. Eberhart will attend the Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference in Reno, NV during the week of February 20-24, 2023.

Director Bland made a motion to send Mr. Eberhart to the Upper Yakima System Storage Meetings in Denver, CO from February 28, 2023 – March 3, 2023. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

During the week of March 27-31, 2023, there will be multiple meetings taking place in Washington D.C. regarding the Upper Yakima System Storage Phase II and the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan. Director Swanson made a motion to send Mr. Eberhart to Washington D.C. to attend the meetings. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

The Yakima Basin Focused Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR), Taneum Creek Pilot Test work is continuing and on schedule.

The agreement for the cultural work on the Easton Bull Trout Research Facility project continues.

The KRDC is expecting \$3 ½ Million for the North Branch and \$6 ½ Million for the South Branch from the FY23 Appropriations. There is also some additional capability funding that may become available. The appropriations funding is expected to be distributed within the next couple of weeks.

Project Updates: The North Branch No. 33-NBC-1005 Change Order #01 was signed since the last board meeting which allowed the addition of \$953,947.50 worth of work to be added to the project.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the January 2023 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 46974 - 47038 direct deposit numbers 9902627 through 9902642 in the sum of \$708,934.72 were approved with a motion made by Director Bland. The second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: The invoice for the Family Farm Alliance Contribution in the amount of \$4,163.46 was presented to the Board. There was a brief discussion on how the amount is calculated and then agreed to be paid.

New Business: Director Swanson made a motion to dispose of the records noted in the Certificate of Records Destruction. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Legal Counsel Slothower gave a summary of the meeting that Director Bland, Director Haberman, Mr. Eberhart, and various other people attended with County Commissioner Wright and Public Works Director Cook regarding bridges in the County. Initially the conversation was regarding a particular dispute of a bridge owned by a KRD Landowner which needs to be repaired. The conversation then shifted to the beginning of a collaboration to create a bridge policy that includes the KRD in the process when the bridge is crossing a KRD canal. There was particular interest in getting bridges rated and how that process could be done. This conversation will be continued, and further updates will be forthcoming.

Mr. Eberhart provided a briefing to the Board for EMRGY Solicitation for Canal Hydropower. The Board agreed that Hydropower is an avenue of possible funding that should be considered and further research will need to be done before the topic is decided upon. During the interim, the KRD will work with the engineering firm to explore this as a funding opportunity prior to signing with a company.

Director Swanson made a motion to approve the payment for the 2023 WSWRA Irrigation Dues of \$22,000.00 with a Legislative Contribution of \$5,653.45. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: Landowner Mark Charlton asked for clarification on the fencing that is being installed on the North Branch from Stevens Rd to I-90. It was explained that the Department of Fish and Wildlife is assisting with the funding for this project.

Director Swanson mentioned that the Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) has an election in progress for a board member position. The KCCD is attempting to generate as much participation for the election as possible and encouraged the KRD Board to participate as well as spreading the message to other landowners. Also, as a second topic, the sign-up for the Sprinkler Program is open until February 24, 2023.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:52 p.m. for 20 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii) there was a motion made by Director Haberman and a second made by Director Hansen. The motion passed unanimously. Executive Session was extended for 10 additional minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:22 p.m. with a motion made by Director Haberman and the second was made by Director Swanson. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to authorize Mr. Eberhart to sign Change Order #02 after legal and management review. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

All business having been concluded the meeting was adjourned.

Mr. Schnebly KRD Board of Directors Chairman

Mr. Eberhart KRD Secretary Manager