

Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
May 14, 2024 Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on May 14, 2024 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 in attendance were KRD Landowner Mark Charlton and Robyn Schultz.

KRD Chairman Schnebly called the meeting to order. 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 Hansen. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the April 2, 2024 Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Bland. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Robyn Schultz inquired on the access to a copy of the Board Meeting Minutes. She was referred to the website once the minutes are published.

KRD Landowner Mark Charlton encouraged the attendance at a Farm Bureau Meeting with Department of Ecology which was scheduled for the following day to discuss wetland issues.

Water Master Report: As of May 14, 2024 the five reservoirs are at 60% capacity which is 73.4% of average. Precipitation at the five reservoirs for May 1 to date is 2.99 inches, or 72% of average and 30% of the months average. Precipitation for the Water Year is 164.19 inches, or 82% of average. The Snotel sites for the Upper Yakima Basin are reporting 48% of average and the Naches Basin sites are at 60% of average.

Chris Lynch and his team with the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) have been continually reevaluating the water supply and the water forecast. With the

water supply continuing to deteriorate and the allotment expected to be reduced to closer to 50%, the Board was asked to consider setting the allotment at 1.25 cfs per acre of land. The forecasting the KRD is doing at this rate allows and prorationing of 1 inch to the acre beginning on Approximately May 22, the KRD would continue to operate as long as possible. Director Hansen made a motion to change the allotment to 1.25 cfs per acre. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Main reported there are 2 backhoes operating on Ride 5 smearing leaks and on Ride 2 cleaning up weed piles. There has been a tremendous problem with weeds plugging gates and ditches this year. There is a crew installing the 18 gage stations that were purchased. There are 10 that have been installed and are operational at this time. Spray crews have started spraying. Maintenance Crews are concentrating on measuring devices, resetting and remeasuring to ensure they are as accurate as possible.

Secretary Manager's Activity: Mr. Eberhart attended the Columbia Basin Collaborative Forum Meeting on April 3, 2024. The emphasis on the meeting was to focus on the Sacramento Valley and how it relates to the Columbia Basin System through their structured decision making process.

There was a Regional Directors Meeting and Tour on April 9-10, 2024.

Phil Rigdon with Yakama Nation and Mr. Eberhart worked with Television Washington to film a video on the collaborative process on April 18, 2024.

Mr. Eberhart presented at the 14th Washington Hydrogeology Symposium on April 24, 2024 on the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan.

On the week of April 28, 2024, Mr. Eberhart traveled to Washington D.C. to give presentations on the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP). There were a multitude of meetings with various political leaders. The YBIP was well represented and is believed to have been a very successful trip.

Mr. Eberhart attended the Ruckelshaus Advisory Board Meeting in Vancouver, WA on May 7, 2024.

The Washington Agricultural Viability Conference is being held in Kennewick, WA on May 29-30, 2024.

Mr. Eberhart will be presenting with a panel at the University of Washington on June 1, 2024.

Director Bland made a motion to allow Mr. Eberhart to travel to Boise, ID on June 26-27, 2024 to attend the Columbia Basin Collaborative 1/RG Meeting. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

On July 16-21, 2024 the Family Farm Alliance Retreat and Memorial Service for Patrick O'Toole will be held in Colorado and Wyoming. Director Haberman made a motion to allow Mr. Eberhart, the Director of the Advisory Committee, to attend the Retreat and Memorial Service. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Yesterday, an announcement was made, of additional funding available in the Inflation Reduction Act Budget. This funding was made available to purchase acreage on the Cle Elum Ridge.

Director Haberman made a motion to accept Exhibit A and B – Task Authorization (KRD2022-PS-06.07.0) Targeted Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR). A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Exhibit C Amendment 1, (KRD2022-PS-01.03.1) Upper Yakima System Storage (UYSS) Scoping Feasibility is an amendment to previously authorized task. The Amendment allows an additional \$300,000.00 for additional Value Planning which was requested by the USBR. Director Hansen made a motion to approve Exhibit C. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Swanson made a motion to approve the design work for the pump ditch. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Exhibit A and B (KRD2022-PS-01.08.0) Geotechnical Field Exploration for Springwood Reservoir was provided to the Board. Director Hansen made a motion to approve Exhibits A & B. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

After a brief discussion on the cultural history of the Yakama Nation and how beneficial it is for the project, Director Bland made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-05 Yakama Nation Sole Source Cultural Consultant Agreement. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

By consensus, the Board determined it was no longer beneficial to continue using the Conference Call-In for Board Meetings. Director Hansen made a motion to discontinue the service. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates: Director Bland made a motion to accept the Substantial Completion for South Branch Piping 10.85 to 11.7 Substantial Completion and Change Order 8, which allows for the punchlist to be completed. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

The Substantial Completion for the North Branch Canal Lining 31.5 – 30.3 and 30.3 – 27.5 was presented to the Board. Both projects are functioning well with no issues.

Manastash Ridge Trail Safety Improvements (MRT) was substantially completed on schedule without any issues. Belsaas and Smith will submit a pay request minus the retainage and the Notice of Completion will be forthcoming.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the April 2024 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 48277 – 48369 direct deposit numbers 9902960 through 9902979 in the sum of \$9,116,440.90 were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: The updated 2024 Foreclosure List was presented to the Board. Direction was given to present final invoice certified letters to the remaining accounts. If payment is not received by July 1, 2024 the remaining accounts will be transferred to legal counsel to continue with the foreclosure process. Director Hansen made a motion to send certified letters requesting payment and further discussion will occur in the July Board Meeting. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Director Hansen made a motion to pay the USBR 2024 Construction Debt Repayment Invoice of \$50,623.53. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

The 2024-25 Retro Safety Membership Invoice was presented to the Board in the amount of \$1,965.56.

Resolution 2024-03, Declaration of Drought Emergency was presented to the Board. After a brief discussion, Director Hansen made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-03. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:55 p.m. for 30 minutes per RCW 42.30.110.(1)(b) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii) there was a motion made by Director Swanson and a second made by Director Bland. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:25 pm with a motion made by Director Haberman and the second was made by Director Hansen. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Swanson made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-04 which accepted the litigation terms of the settlement with Tetra Tech. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Schnebly KRD Board of Directors Chairman

Mr. Eberhart KRD Secretary Manager