

**Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
February 8, 2022 Minutes**

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on February 8, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Attending the meeting, via conference call, were Division Three Director and Chairman Fred Schnebly, Division One Director and Vice Chairman Mark Hansen, Division Two Director Sherry Swanson, Division Four Director Larry Bland, Division Five Director Brad Haberman, Secretary Manager Urban Eberhart, Assistant Manager Kevin Eslinger, Field Supervisor Bob Main, Treasurer Stacy Berg, GIS Specialist Roger Satnik and Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower.

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 and the second was made by Director Bland. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the January 11, 2022 Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Bland. The second was made by Director Swanson. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Water Master Report: As of February 7, 2022 the five reservoirs are at 70% capacity and the storage is at 127.3% of average. The inflows to the five reservoirs are 59% and releases are at 94% of average. Inflow to the five reservoirs for the water year to date is 647KAF, or 131% of average and releases are 263KAF which is 112% of average. Precipitation at the five reservoirs for February 1 to date is 1.64 inches, or 31% of average and 6% of the months average. Precipitation for the water year to date is 158.39 inches, or 112% of average. The Snotel sites for the Upper Yakima Basin are reporting 90% of average and the Naches Basin sites at 92% of average.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Bob Main reported that one excavator is working upstream of Colockum Rd and the second excavator is working upstream of Lester Rd. Maintenance Crews are clearing right-of-way on the inlet-end of the Tillman Siphon. There is ongoing vehicle and equipment maintenance occurring at the shop. The structure on South Branch 11.7 has been completed.

Secretary Manager's Activity Report: The Covid Safety Operations have continued as the latest variant surge is moving through the county. Although the county health department

is no longer reporting statistics on Covid cases, it appears the numbers are trending down, so we are hopeful our next board meeting will be in-person. The office will remain operating under the same requirements.

KRD staff regularly meets with the insurance company to get updated information. As of last week, the permitting process with the City of Ellensburg has delayed the process of repairing the roof of the Ellensburg Shop. Discussions are continuing with the owner of the Kittitas Shop.

The Tri State Water Users met on January 28, 2022. The Commissioner of Reclamation presented to the group and highlighted the KRD. She emphasized her appreciation for the KRD and announced the KRD was the recipient of an additional \$5 Million in grant funding from the FY22 CR Drought Money.

Director Hansen, Director Haberman and Mr. Eberhart will be attending the Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference Reno, NV February 23-25. There will not be an opportunity for a virtual attendance.

The Water Supply Technical Work Group has been formed to identify water flow that is available to fill reservoirs. This is a process will help with the planning of new surface storage.

A group met with staff from the USBR to discuss the Reclamation Cost Allocation. A future meeting is scheduled.

Things are progressing with the Upper Yakima System Storage (UYSS) Phase II Project. There are currently discussions occurring with the USBR to prepare a cooperative agreement for \$1.5 Million dollars for a feasibility study.

KRD is working with the Department of Ecology to utilize the DocuSign Software which was newly implemented and is not communicating well with the currently used EAGLE Software. The latest grant funding for the Yakima Basin Focused Managed Aquifer Recharge should be completed soon.

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WSDFW) met with the KRD regarding the increase in elk herd populations that are impacting local farmers. With the limited amount of funding available for fencing the WSDFW has prioritized some of the pump lateral as the next installation. The KRD will be including safety fencing that will be included in the canal lining projects as the project moves through the Parke Creek Area which will help keep various animals and people out of the canal.

Project Updates: South Branch Phase I Canal Lining Reach 4 and 5 Change Orders 8,9 and 10 were presented. Change Orders 8 and 9 are complete and Change Order 10 is waiting on authorization for funding from the USBR. An agreement for additional funding is expected to be received in the next couple weeks. Director Haberman made a motion that Change Order 10 be implemented with the conditions that the grant lid be lifted and the funds are available. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

South Branch Phase II Robinson MP 10.4 Piping Project to MP 10.8 Change Orders 1,2 and 3 were presented. Change Order 1 allows the contractor to provide the optional bid. Change Order 2 will be to correct elevation. Change Order 3 is the remainder of the additional \$2.9 Million received. Director Bland made a motion to approve Change Orders 1,2 and 3. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

The South Branch Phase II project has generated some additional interest with Congresswoman Shrier recently touring the project. King5 News has also interviewed Mr. Eberhart.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the January 2022 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 45940-46003, direct deposit numbers 9902342 through 9902359 in the sum of \$1,169,951.51 were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Legal Counsel Slothower reported that the land owner that was in the foreclosure process has paid in full which will dismiss the foreclosure action and complete the foreclosure process for 2021.

The Professional Services RFQ was published in newspapers in Yakima, Spokane and the Tri-Cities. The deadline for the submission is February 25, 2022. A subcommittee was formed to establish the RFQ. Directors Swanson and Haberman volunteered to be on the subcommittee which will meet and report back to the board at the May 5th Board Meeting.

New Business: Director Bland made a motion to pay the Yakima River Basin Coalition 2022 invoice in the amount of \$32,638.10. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

The Yakima Basin Joint Board invoice in the amount of \$42,000.00 was presented to the board. Director Bland made a motion to approve the payment. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:34 p.m. for 15 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(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 an additional 10 minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 1:59 p.m. with a motion made by Director Hansen, and the second was made by Director Haberman. 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