

**Office of the Secretary Manager**  
**Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting**  
**May 9, 2023 Minutes**

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on May 9, 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 Dave McDaniel and Mark Charlton.

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 April 4, 2023, Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Haberman. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: There was no public comment noted.

Water Master Report: As of May 9, 2023 the five reservoirs are at 69% capacity and the storage at 87.8% of average. Precipitation at the five reservoirs for May 1 to date is .90 inches, or 35% of average and 9% of the months average. The Snotel sites for the Upper Yakima Basin are reporting 90% of average and the Naches Basin sites are at 87% of average. The next River Ops Meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. The canal was increased by 50 cfs yesterday and will increase an additional 50 cfs today with the warm weather, the water deliveries are anticipated to increase. Proration is currently at 86%. The Board will continue to monitor the status and adjust at the July board meeting if any changes need to be made.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Bob Main reported that the start-up process went fairly smoothly. Orion Farms had some flooding issues which will require them to install a sump pump to rectify the problem in the future. The Turbine 1.1 Piping project was completed. The new gauge stations are installed and working well.

Secretary Manager's Activity Report: The insurance company for the Ellensburg Shop Fire was contacted to request the final insurance payment. Mr. Eberhart also spoke to the previous owner of the Kittitas Shop to request the damage deposit be reimbursed.

The Annual Tributary Supplementation Meeting was held on April 7, 2023 at the Ellensburg Fish & Wildlife Office. The meeting was attended well and offered a good conversation summarizing the prior year's projects and statistics.

Several KRD representatives attended the Kittitas County Water Conservancy Board Meeting on April 18, 2023. The KRD has interest in an application that has dual water rights which would impact the Total Water Supply Available (TWSA). The draft opposition letter from the KRD was shared at the meeting.

Mr. Eberhart attended the Columbia Basin Collaborative Integration / Recommendations Group Meetings in Portland, OR on April 19-20, 2023.

On April 21, 2023 the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP) met for a policy meeting. The group continues to work collectively with various groups to ensure the best future for water use in the Yakima Basin.

Mr. Eberhart presented to the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) regional director, regional office and Denver Office, in Boise, Idaho on April 25-28, 2023 on the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan. This meeting provided an opportunity for a unified message as positions and employees have changed over time. The meeting was so beneficial there are discussions to the possibility of conducting a similar meeting on an annual basis.

The cultural work is being conducted for the Easton Bull Trout Research Facility. Central Washington University is performing the ground penetrating radar, the results will be forthcoming. Mr. Eberhart met with Senator Murray on May 2, 2023 to discuss additional funding.

Director Hansen provided an overview of the planning being done for the Family Farm Alliance Event on September 15, 2023. Several facilities will be toured, various presentations and dinner will be served for approximately 150 attendees. It was noted that several of the KRD Directors would likely be in attendance, which would qualify as a quorum so a publication would be necessary.

There was a detailed discussion on Recreational Access Requests which was determined would be an ongoing educational program. A landowner has approached the KRD asking

permission to sign a liability waiver to allow him to walk on the canal access roads. The landowner is expected to attend the June Board Meeting to discuss it further with the Board.

Director Bland made a motion to approve KRD2022-PS-01 Task #2 Change Order which revised the maximum contract price to \$250,000.00. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates: The Turbine 1.1 Piping Project is complete.

Director Swanson made a motion to allow Mr. Eberhart and Field Supervisor Main to sign the Request for Relief of Responsibility North Branch No. 33-NBC-1005 after administration review. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the April 2023 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 47205 - 47287 direct deposit numbers 9902687 through 9902706 in the sum of \$3,162,582.79 were approved with a motion made by Director Hansen. The second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: An updated 2023 Foreclosure List was presented to the board. The treasurer will continue the collection process.

New Business: 2021-2022 Financial Audit is scheduled to begin on May 22, 2023 with an Accountability Audit slated to begin later this summer.

Director Haberman made a motion to make the first installment of the USBR 2023 Construction payment in the amount of \$53,209.53. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Several 2023 Agreements for the Kittitas County Water Purveyors were presented to the board for signatures.

The 2023 KRD Employee Housing Agreements were briefly discussed by the board and signed by the chairman.

Director Haberman made a motion to pay the 2023 – 2024 Retro Safety invoice in the amount of \$1,646.84. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

During the warm weather last week, Naneum Creek washed a 7-foot-deep channel in the far bank which allowed a large amount of water to enter the canal near an undershot. The Department of Fish and Wildlife has issued an emergency permit to do work in the tributary. The landowner, Pat Jenkins approved an emergency road through his property to gain access to the area. The creek is expected to continue to rise over the next few days. With the extra debris and additional cfs going down the creek, the emergency declaration will allow KRD personnel to build a temporary road to the area of concern. The necessary repairs will maintain the integrity of the canal without having to go through the typical bid process, which would take a significant amount of time and cause a substantial increase to the damages accrued. Kittitas County Public Works has agreed to send dump trucks to assist in the repair work. Director Bland made a motion to approve the Emergency Declaration Resolution 2023-03. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

EMRGY Inc. provided a presentation to the Board for the possibility of introducing hydropower to the canal system. After extensive conversation, the board agreed to allow EMRGY Inc. to continue to provide further information on the subject.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 2:26 p.m. for 25 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii) there was a motion made by Director Hanson and a second made by Director Swanson. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:51 p.m. with a motion made by Director Haberman and the second was made by Director Bland. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to allow employees to transfer Sick Leave to Austin Gordon to allow for the recovery of a shoulder injury. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

All business having been concluded the meeting was adjourned.

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Mr. Schnebly KRD Board of Directors Chairman

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Mr. Eberhart KRD Secretary Manager