

**Office of the Secretary Manager**  
**Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting**  
**June 6, 2023 Minutes**

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on June 6, 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 Sadowski, Ron Cline, Clint Weaver 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 May 9, 2023, Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Bland. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Landowner Ron Cline presented a draft property consent waiver to the Board and presented a suggestion which would allow property owners of 20 acres or more to have the ability to walk on the KRD ditchbank without trespassing. Legal Counsel Slothower explained that the canal is owned by the federal government and the KRD is contractually required to maintain the land. The KRD wouldn't have any authority to enter into that type of agreement and contractually the land cannot be used for anything except delivering water. Historically, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) has not been willing to issue recreational use permits. Landowners have, in some cases been granted permits for agricultural uses only. Mr. Cline was referred to the USBR if he wanted to take it further. There was further conversation regarding the efforts the KRD has made to present a consistent message of no recreational use to ensure the best safety practices are met.

Water Master Report: As of June 6, 2023 the five reservoirs are at 87% capacity and the storage at 97.3% of average. There was no measurable precipitation recorded for June 1 to date. Precipitation for the Water Year to Date is 151.83

inches, or 73% of average. The System went on Storage Control on June 1, 2023 and the pro-rationing has been set for 77%. The canal is down to 1000 cfs minus 90 for credits. The month of May ended with 55% of average precipitation. Rationing will be required for the duration of the water season as the stream flows have diminished dramatically. The USBR is expected to re-evaluate every 2 weeks. The KRD will continue to monitor and work closely with the USBR and the landowners to ensure the best possibility of an October 15, 2023 shut off date.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Bob Main reported that the repairs on Naneum Creek have been completed. A road was built to gain access to the repair area. Approximately 780 feet of the new road went through the landowner's property. Kittitas County provided dump trucks for the project. Director Hansen requested the KRD work with Kittitas County to remedy the problem in the future. Mr. Eberhart assured that he is already working with Senator Cantwell's Office for funding to attempt to come up with a plan to help remedy that situation.

Maintenance Crews have finished the repairs at the Easton Dam. The spray and mowing programs are in progress.

Secretary Manager's Activity Report: The damage deposit from Camelot Properties has been returned. The insurance company still has some paperwork to finish before they can issue the final payment for the Ellensburg Shop Fire.

On May 16-18, 2023 the Idaho Water Users toured some of the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Projects. There were various government officials, university personnel and water users who came to tour the projects that are being done throughout the system.

Mr. Eberhart and Paul Ward with the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission presented for the University of Washington Evans School of Public Policy and Governance on May 23, 2023.

On May 25, 2023, Mr. Eberhart participated in a presentation for Washington State University as well as other academia's at the Department of Ecology Office in Yakima.

The Commissioner of Reclamation and other Upper Leadership USBR Position personnel are expected in the upcoming Reclamation Tour.

The Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Policy Group met on June 2, 2023 and continues to make progress in those discussions.

Mr. Eberhart will be participating in the Lines on Wines Podcast on June 7, 2023.

On June 6, 2023, Mr. Eberhart will present on the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan for Whatcom County Council.

Mr. Eberhart will participate in the Department of Ecology Executive Team Tour next week.

Mr. Eberhart will present at the Yakima Basin Science and Management Conference.

The Washington State Water Resource Association Tri-State Meeting will be held in Spokane on June 23, 2023.

On June 26, 2023, Mr. Eberhart will be filmed and interviewed for a TVW Collaborative Leadership Project Interview in Olympia.

The Yakima Basin Joint Basin “Water 101” Tour Upper Basin is scheduled for June 29, 2023.

Director Hansen and Charlie Lyle are hosting a Family Farm Alliance Tour on September 13, 2023.

Director Swanson made a motion to send Mr. Eberhart to the United States Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID) Conference in Fort Collins, Colorado on October 17-20, 2023. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

A Task Order for Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) KRD2017-PS-07.14.2 GIS Clearing House Repository was presented to the board. The Task Order amended the previous contract to not-to-exceed total compensation value of \$46,535.00 for professional consulting services. Director Haberman made a motion to approve the Task Order. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Bland made a motion to approve KRD2022-ps-01.01.1 which increased \$40,000 not-to-exceed \$80,000 for coordination and project management. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

The Task Authorization for Professional Services for the KRD North Branch Canal 27.2 to 30.3 Task Order 4 was presented to the Board. Director Hansen made a motion to approve Task Authorization KRD-PS-01.40. NB Canal 27.2 – 30.3 in the amount of \$580,000.00 for design work and bid expenses. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to approve Task Order 4, which allows Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) to use drones at the Springwood Ranch Reservoir Site. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates: The funding for the North Branch and the South Branch projects are continuing to move forward. Once the funding is awarded, the projects will move to the bid process.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the May 2023 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 47288 - 47407 direct deposit numbers 9902711 through 9902729 in the sum of \$844,599.72 were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: An updated 2023 Foreclosure List was presented to the board with two remaining accounts. After a brief discussion presented by Legal Counsel Slothower it was the consensus of the board that the remaining funds on these accounts were so small that it would not be in the best interest of the District to implement the foreclosure process at the present time. The lien will remain on the properties and the situation will be re-evaluated next year. In the meantime, the KRD will continue to encourage the landowners on each account to make payments.

The remaining 2023 Agreements for the Kittitas County Water Purveyors had not been returned to the KRD by the board meeting. Once the agreements are returned, they will be presented to the board for signatures.

The 2023 KRD Employee Housing Agreement for the South Cle Elum House was presented and signed by the Chairman.

After a detailed conversation with Landowner Dave Sadowski regarding the bridge on the North Branch 8.3. It was reported, the bridge was inspected and deemed unsafe. The letter presented allows the landowner to temporarily use the bridge for minimal use for up to one year. If the bridge is not repaired within the year, the bridge will be removed by the KRD. The agreement was signed by the landowner at the board meeting.

Before a letter of support can be sent to EMRGY for the clean energy project, the KRD will be discussing the project with the USBR to ensure that both entities approve of the project.

New Business: Director Bland made a motion to make the second installment of the USBR 2023 Operation & Maintenance payment in the amount of \$455,14.22. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:59 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 Swanson. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:19 p.m. with a motion made by Director Haberman and the 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