

Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
September 13, 2022 Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on September 13, 2022 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 Five Director Brad Haberman, Division Four Director Bart Bland, Secretary Manager Urban Eberhart, Assistant Manager Kevin Eslinger, Field Supervisor Bob Main, Construction Supervisor Robby Main, Treasurer Stacy Berg, KRD Land Clerk/RRA Specialist Sara Vickers, Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower and KRD Landowner Mike Harris.

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

The minutes for the August 2, 2022, Board Meeting were approved as amended with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Haberman. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: KRD Landowner Mike Harris explained a neighbor dispute between his neighboring tenant and himself regarding a private ditch that is used mutually between the two. There were some alterations done by the neighboring tenant which now diminishes the water flow in the private ditch and keeps Mr. Harris from having the ability to get water for his cattle and property. Mr. Harris asked the board to consider allowing him to have his own turnout.

Water Master Report: As of September 12, 2022, the five reservoirs are at 50% capacity and the storage is at 127.0% of average. There was no measurable precipitation at the five reservoirs from September 1 through September 12. Precipitation for the water year to date is 253.19 inches, or 113% of average. The inflows to the five reservoirs is 65% and releases from the five is 109% of average.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Bob Main reported that maintenance crews have begun the fall spraying, mowing and weed eating. There were two new employees hired recently. One employee is a heavy equipment operator and the other is a dam tender trainee.

Secretary Manager's Activity Report: The Covid restrictions are being lifted.

The applications for boundary line adjustment and the conditional use permit for the Gibb and Camelot properties have been submitted to the City of Kittitas to be processed. The purchase and sale agreements have been signed contingent on the permits being approved by the City of Kittitas.

Mr. Eberhart attended a meeting with Commodity Futures Trading Commission Chairman Benham, Representative Schrier & Director Sandison on August 12, 2022.

The American Fisheries Society National Conference was broadcast virtually and Mr. Eberhart was able to present for the conference.

Trout Unlimited Vice President for Government Affairs Steve Moyer was given a tour on August 25, 2022.

Mr. Eberhart presented at the Honoring Channa Event on September 1, 2022.

A New York Times Article was published on September 6, 2022, which featured the KRD and the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan. The article was also printed by the Seattle Times and other newspapers.

On September 7, 2022, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) had an annual financial discussion to review their budgetary needs and estimates for future payments required by the irrigation districts.

Mr. Eberhart presented at the Water Law in Central Washington Panel Discussion on September 9, 2022.

The Tri State Meeting will be held in Spokane, WA on September 15, 2022, and will have the capability to attend virtually.

Mr. Eberhart will provide a presentation to the current AgForestry class on the, Yakima Basin Integrate Plan Panel on September 16, 2022.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Paul Ward and Mr. Eberhart will be speaking to the University of Washington Evans Executive MPA Class on September 18, 2022.

Washington State Senator Mullet will attend a tour on September 23, 2022.

Mr. Eberhart will be attending Family Farm Alliance Meetings in Washington D.C. on September 26-28, 2022.

KRD personnel and Mr. Eberhart are scheduled to provide a presentation at Little Creek on the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan to County Commissioners & Legislators on September 29, 2022.

KRD Consultant Walter Larrick and Assistant Manager Kevin Eslinger are scheduled to present a Yakima Basin Joint Board Tour on September 29, 2022.

Mr. Eberhart will attend and present at the International Congress on Irrigation & Drainage Workshop in Australia between October 3-10, 2022.

The Water Marketing Report is in the review process now and is expected to be finalized within the next few weeks.

The Water Supply Technical Work Group continues to identify the specifics of how water can be stored.

A Notice of Award was issued to the KRD for the Upper Yakima System Storage (UYSS) Phase II Project. \$1,600,000.00 was issued to start the scoping and feasibility of the project. The KRD will continue to work with state and federal governments to find additional funding for this project.

The committee continues to meet and have site visits for the Yakima Basin Focused Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR), Taneum Creek Pilot Test. The project is continuing as it leads up to a pilot test during the next irrigation season.

A Notice of Award for the Easton Bull Trout Facility was awarded to the KRD in the amount of \$700,000.00. The committee will continue to work on planning and permitting as it leads up to the construction.

The KRD is continuing to monitor the FY22 Appropriations. If there is any available funding available over the next few weeks, the KRD is requesting the authorization to use it.

Numerous requests were submitted for the FY23 Appropriations. Further details will be forthcoming once the FY23 budget is set.

Director Swanson made a motion to accept the Jacobs Engineering Environmental Task and Work Authorizations. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates: The South Branch Phase I Canal Lining Reach 4 and 5 are complete. The remaining portion of this project is waiting for the subcontractors to submit their affidavits and then the entire process will be complete.

The South Branch Phase II Robinson MP 10.4 Piping Project to MP 10.8 is complete. The notice of completion was filed August 22, 2022.

A 60% drawing for the North Branch Above Johnson was made available to the board.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the August 2022 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 46538 - 46620, direct deposit numbers 9902502 through 9902522 in the sum of \$479,352.63 were approved with a motion made by Director Haberman. The second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

The 2021 Financial Audit is complete and should be published on September 15, 2022 on the Washington State Auditor's Office website. The audit was determined to be in compliance without any material deficiencies. Any errors that were noted have been corrected.

Old Business: Director Hansen made a motion to adopt the Bridge Policy, Diversion and Distribution Policy, Crossing and Use Policy, Policy for Divisions of Property with KRD Irrigable Acreage, Facility Modification Policy and Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions Establishing a Water Distribution Plan. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously. The policies will be available on the website as well as in the procedures manual.

The remaining landowner on the 2022 Foreclosure List has paid the assessment and interest. The KRD will continue to work on the Alpine Estates project during the coming months.

New Business: Legal Counsel Slothower discussed some current legislature that amends the open public meetings act. In the ESHB 1329 legislation the public is allowed to attend open public meetings in person and public entities are encouraged to continue the virtual attendance as well.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:55 p.m. for 15 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii) there was motion made by Director Hansen and a second made by Director Swanson. The motion passed unanimously. Executive session was extended for 10 minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:20 p.m. with a motion made by Director Haberman, and the second was made by Director Hansen. 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