

**Office of the Secretary Manager  
Kittitas Reclamation District/Roza Irrigation District  
Special Joint Board of Directors Meeting  
October 23, 2023 Minutes**

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) and the Roza Irrigation District (Roza) met in a Special Session on October 23, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. Attending the meeting, were KRD Division Three Director and Chairman Fred Schnebly, KRD Division One Director and Vice Chairman Mark Hansen, KRD Division Two Director Sherry Swanson, KRD Division Four Director Bart Bland, KRD Division Five Director Brad Haberman, Roza Division 1 Director Ric Valicoff, Roza Division Two Director Tanner Winckler, Roza Division 3 Director Jason Sheehan, Roza Division 5 Director Jim Willard, KRD Secretary Manager Urban Eberhart, Roza Secretary Manager Scott Revell, KRD Treasurer Stacy Berg, Roza Assistant Secretary Kristel Espinoza, KRD Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower and Roza Legal Counsel Brian Iller. There were various other people present at the meeting.

The agenda was approved with the addition of an executive session for reasons consistent with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii). The motion was made by Director Haberman. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Long Range Weather Forecast Trends: Phil Volker, Meteorologist ERF Company addressed the boards virtually. There was an extensive overview of historical El Nino events as well as a prediction for the upcoming winter. Mr. Volker advised that there was an above average probability of milder temperatures and heavy precipitation. There was an emphasis that the prediction is always subject to change as there are many different contributing factors but the East Side of the Cascade Range is expected to receive some precipitation and possibly up to normal amounts of precipitation.

United States Bureau of Reclamation Hydrologist Chris Lynch provided a report on previous drought years and how they aligned with 2023. Mr. Lynch reported that so far, the predicted precipitation that has been received has been lighter than what was predicted. Otherwise, he also gave a similar report on what a typical El Nino or Super El Nino year would look like.

There have been a lot of personnel changes in integral positions since the 2015 Drought Declaration. With those changes is a loss of historical knowledge and the participants have made a collaborative effort to build that historical knowledge from previous drought experiences. With programs such as piping and lining canals, tributary supplementation, ground and surface water storage, reducing risk. Through collaboration the Yakima Basin is creating a pathway for irrigation districts and the ecosystem to survive drought years.

Legislative Efforts: Department of Ecology (DOE), Heather Simmons spoke on the work being done with Roza and KRD on the Emergency Drought Wells. Mr. Eberhart expressed his appreciation to the DOE for declaring the drought, which helped growers access drought wells and irrigation districts to have access to federal programs that there would not have been access to otherwise. The DOE is evaluating the 2023 water season and will be facilitating changes as needed to improve the program in the future. USBR Yakima Field Office Manager Chad Stuart reported that they are consulting on the USBR operations on Bull Trout and Steelhead. There are discussions taking place between the USBR and the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Partners to develop action items.

Roza Manager Scott Revel provided an overview on Cloud Seeding and specifically how it is being used by Idaho Power. It was said that the Federal Government has been successfully using cloud seeding since the 1960's and if it is done correctly, it can increase the precipitation 10-12%. There was an extensive conversation about the complications that could be involved in this type of program. Further evaluation will need to be done before a decision is made by the irrigation districts to determine if they will utilize a similar program.

The Tributary Supplementation Program was implemented by the KRD to open up passage in multiple tributaries to allow fish to multiply. The program is showing a very positive response to the habitat and fish numbers in the tributaries which have been supplemented to date. In using this program the district has been able to save approximately 7,000 ft of water as the water is passing through that is also helping with groundwater storage. Roza Manager Scott Revel expressed his appreciation for the support to do projects such as the Box Canyon and tributary supplementation.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 2:02 p.m. for 15 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(iii) there was a motion made by Director Haberman and a second made by Director Bland. The motion passed unanimously. Extended 10 minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:27 pm. Director

Haberman and the second was made by Director Hansen. 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