

**Office of the Secretary Manager**  
**Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting**  
**November 3, 2020 Minutes**

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on November 3, 2020 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 Four Director Larry Bland, Division Five Director Brad Haberman, Division Two Director Sherry Swanson, Secretary Manager Urban Eberhart, Assistant Manager Kevin Eslinger, Treasurer Stacy Berg, GIS Specialist Roger Satnik, Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower and Land Owner Mike Miles.

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

The minutes for the October 6, 2020 Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Bland, the second was made by Director Haberman. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: Land Owner Mike Miles approached the board with a seepage issue that he believed to be caused by a modification of a lateral that occurred previously. Field Supervisor Main and Assistant Manager Eslinger were asked by Director Haberman to assess the problem and see if there was anything that can be done to improve the situation.

Water Master Report: As of November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the five reservoirs are at 32% capacity with inflows at 84% and releases at 122% of average. Inflows to the five reservoirs for the Water Year is 128KAF, or 196% of average and releases are at 103KAF or 196% of average. Precipitation for the Water Year to date is 32.15 inches, or 170% of average. The next River Operations Meeting is scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>. KRD Irrigation deliveries were shut down on October 15<sup>th</sup>, Supplementation Flows continued to Tucker Creek, Big Creek, Little Creek, Taneum Creek and Manastash Creek. Manastash and Taneum Creeks Supplementation Flows are expected to be shut down on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Maintenance Report: Crews have been draining pipelines and siphons and have winterized all the pressure reduction valves. The pumping plant has been winterized. A failing turnout and a rock check were replaced at P-1.7 on the Pump Lateral. A new check was constructed at T-4.2 on the Turbin Lateral. There are 3 backhoes cleaning the laterals and weir pools on Rides 1, 2 and 5.

Maintenance crews have completed the Tucker Creek Fish Passage Project with the construction of a temporary fish ladder. The Tucker Creek Restoration and Road Abandonment Project have also been completed.

Last week, work began on the Westside Irrigating Company Canal from Goodwin Rd to I-90 which is where the canal had previously overtopped. Crews moved fill from an elevated area of road bank to fill the low area. They are also removing a rock bar under the east and west bound lanes of I-90 that had been causing the canal to backup.

The rope crew will be starting siphon inspections next week and preparing for necessary repairs.

Two sections of MB 13.6 Pipeline in the Upper County have been repaired and are no longer leaking.

Secretary Manager's Activity Report: The KRD continues to follow the Governor's Order for COVID. Director Haberman made a motion to retain the Emergency COVID status and due to social distancing, the office will remain closed to the public until the next board meeting. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously. There was a lengthy conversation regarding the upcoming board meeting and possible locations that would accommodate the regulations for COVID and allow the public to attend. The staff will be looking into the possibility of holding an in-person board meeting in December.

The Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee Columbia Basin Partnership Report has been completed. There was a presentation given to the Advisory Committee, who accepted the proposal. Moving forward, the Governors of the 4 involved states have agreed to work together and continue the program.

Mr. Eberhart presented at the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference Panel on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a Yakima Basin Data Gaps Discussion on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Staff at the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) will be prioritizing projects based on the process.

A Ruckelshaus Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Legal Counsel Slothower is on the Water Resource Mitigation Task Force. On November 10<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Eberhart will be presenting with other members of a panel, on the Water Marketing Analysis.

The Washington State Water Resources Association (WSWRA) Annual Conference is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>. There was a brief discussion on whether to attend this virtual conference and it was determined that no one from KRD would be attending this year.

Several Board Members for Westside Irrigating Company have reported that they are very satisfied with the work being done by the KRD on their canal. There is a Kittitas County Commissioners Hearing on November 12<sup>th</sup> to consider forming a joint board of operations between Westside Irrigating Company and the KRD.

The Upper Yakima System Storage (UYSS) Phase II, Yakima Basin Data Gaps and the KRD Water Wheeling Analysis Projects are all related. The KRD has submitted comments to the USBR and HDR.

The Water Supply Framing Process is ongoing.

The KRD is in discussions with the Department of Ecology on the latest amendment for the Yakima Basin Focused Managed Aquifer Recharge Assessment. The assessment will fund some drilling and placement of wells, in addition to analyzing how much water can be stored at various locations.

The USBR is working on the Cle Elum Dam Fish Passage. The reservoir rose faster than was expected which required the USBR to release water. The USBR explained that if there is a water shortage in the coming water year, they will make up the difference so that the KRD will not be shorted because of the water release.

The Kachess Project will have a sleeving outlet which will allow the work to continue without having to drain the pool. It is expected that there will be significant costs associated with this project. The KRD will be working closely with the USBR to determine the most appropriate funding options to cover the proportionate expenses.

Project Updates: A Notice to Proceed was given for the South Branch Phase II Robinson Siphon to SB 10.4 Piping Project. Director Bland made a motion to approve Change Order #1, which did not have a change in cost. The Second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The Directors' monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the October 2020 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 44639-44726, direct deposit numbers 9901999 through 9902016 in the sum of \$449,797.49 were approved with a motion made by Director Bland. The second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Legal Counsel Slothower reported that after reviewing the Calculation and Payment of Interest on Delinquent Assessments the KRD should update its procedures. Rather than paying interest on a monthly basis, it was determined that applying interest on a daily basis would meet the statute requirements. A memorandum to the board was presented and with the Boards approval was implemented from this time forward. The original land owner who brought up the issue was contacted and satisfied with the results.

The 2020 Foreclosure List is narrowed down to two landowners. A KRD employee attempted to contact residents at both locations and left letters when no one answered the door. There was reason to believe that both residences were being resided in and the occupants were making no effort to contact the KRD for their unpaid assessments. The board directed Legal Counsel to continue with the foreclosure process.

New Business: Petition of Nomination for Irrigation District Director Forms have been submitted for Division Two and Division Five Positions. Both Forms were submitted on time and had qualifying signatures. There were no additional submissions received. Sherry Swanson will be finishing a two-year term and Brad Haberman will be beginning new 3-year term.

Director Hansen made a motion to approve the renewal invoice for Cities Insurance of Washington (CIAW) in the amount of \$107,506.00 and the agent fee in the amount of \$5,000.00. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Bland made a motion to pay the USBR 2020 Construction Contract 2<sup>nd</sup> Installment of \$53,368.03. The second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to set the board of equalization and presentation of assessment roll at the board meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously. The notice will be publicized in the newspaper on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 2:15 p.m. for 20 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i):(i)(ii) there was a motion made by Director Hansen and a

second made by Director Haberman. The motion passed unanimously. Executive Session was extended an additional 10 minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:45 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.

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Mr. Schnebly KRD Board of Directors Chairman

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Mr. Eberhart KRD Secretary Manager