

Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
December 5, 2023 Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on December 5, 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, Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower and KRD Landowner Greg Robbins.

Director Haberman made a motion to open the Board of Equalization for the duration of the board meeting. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously. The audience was polled to determine if there was anyone who was requesting equalization, which there was not.

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. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the November 7, 2023, Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Hansen. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the November 14, 2023, Special Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Hansen. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Water Master Report: As of December 4, 2023, the five reservoirs are at 14% capacity. Precipitation at the five reservoirs for December 1 to date is 11.38 inches, or 313% of average and 30% of the months average. Precipitation for the Water Year to date is 47.91 inches or 77% of average. Tributary Supplementation has concluded for the 2023 year.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Bob Main advised that there are 5 headgates left to repair on the main canal, both excavators are currently working on the Westside Irrigating Company (Westside), there is one backhoe working on Ride 5 and the second backhoe is on Ride 2. There is a maintenance crew burning and another installing fence. As of this month, KRD will be billing hours as needed for the management of the Westside System.

Secretary Manager's Activity: Mr. Eberhart attended the Ruckelshaus Center Fall Advisory Board Meeting on November 8, 2023.

On November 14, 2023, Mr. Eberhart presented on the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan to a graduate class of the University of Washington.

Director Haberman, Director Hansen, Legal Counsel Slothower and Mr. Eberhart attended the Washington State Water Resources Association (WSWRA) Annual Conference in Spokane, WA from November 29, 2023 to December 1, 2023. The conference was very informative and there was a productive meeting with USBR Regional Director Carrington.

KRD received a notice of a WaterSmart Grant for South Branch Piping in the amount of \$3,000,000.00. There is an additional grant from Washington State Department of Ecology in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 which is the 25% match to the WaterSmart Grant. As soon as the WaterSmart grant is received, discussion can begin on the availability of an additional reach on the South Branch.

Director Bland made a motion to close the KRD Office for Christmas from December 20-27, 2023. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

The 2024 Family Farm Alliance Annual Meeting in Reno, NV is scheduled for the week of February 19, 2024. Director Swanson made a motion to approve the travel for employees and Directors to attend the meeting. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

The KRD signed a letter of opposition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the Northwestern Pond Turtle and Southwestern Pond Turtles being listed as a threatened species.

Director Bland made a motion to accept the Jacobs Engineering Change Order Form Exhibit C which adjusted the environmental cap to \$15,000.00. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates: A notice to proceed for the South Branch Canal Improvements SB 10.85 to SB 11.7 was included in the board packet. The contract has already been sent to the contractor and weekly update meetings are occurring with the contractor and KRD staff.

The start-up date for the North Branch NBC 30.3-31.5 is scheduled to begin on January 1, 2024, it will include work on the outlet of the North Branch as it goes down under I-90.

The Bid Opening for the North Branch Canal Lining Project, Stevens Rd to Vantage Hwy was on December 1, 2023. The apparent low bidder was N.A. Degerstrom. Director Hansen made a motion to provide a Notice of Intent to Award to N.A. Degerstrom. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the November 2023 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 47849 - 47928 direct deposit numbers 9902854 through 9902871 in the sum of \$391,619.86 were approved with a motion made by Director Bland. The second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: During the last KRD Board Meeting, KRD Landowner David Sadowski addressed the board. Since then, Mr. Sadowski has contacted County Commissioner Wright, who then contacted Congresswoman Shrier's Office. The KRD has responded to both offices with additional information.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:30 p.m. for 30 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 Hansen. The motion passed unanimously. Executive Session was extended for 15 additional minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:15 pm with a motion made by Director Hansen and the second was made by Director Haberman. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Eberhart and Treasurer Berg presented the 2024 Budget and explained it in detail. The presentation covered the current status of the investments, the 2023 Budget, assessment collections and known expenses. Director Bland made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget of \$5,053,707.54, with 97.4% of the assessments allocated to Operations & Maintenance and 2.6% allocated to Construction Debt Repayment. The second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Bland made a motion to increase the assessment by \$3.00 per acre. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Haberman made a motion to close the Board of Equalization Resolution 2023-06. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

The Board readjoined to Executive Session at 3:12 p.m. for 10 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 Hansen. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to Regular Session at 3:22 pm 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.

Mr. Schnebly KRD Board of Directors Chairman

Mr. Eberhart KRD Secretary Manager