

Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2024 Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on January 9, 2024 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, Treasurer Stacy Berg, KRD Land Clerk/RRA Specialist Sara Vickers, Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower and KRD Landowner Mark Charlton.

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

Mr. Eberhart presented the Certificate of Election and Oath documents for Division 3 Director, Fred Schnebly and Division 5 Director, Brad Haberman.

A motion was made by Director Bland to retain Director Schnebly as the Board Chairman and Director Hansen as the Vice Chairman for 2024. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to approve the Appointment of Secretary-Manager Urban Eberhart. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Bland made a motion to retain the Appointment of Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the December 5, 2023, Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Haberman. The second was made by Director Bland. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: KRD Landowner Mark Charlton expressed his appreciation to the Board and congratulations.

Water Master Report: As of January 9, 2024 the five reservoirs are at 26% capacity. Precipitation at the five reservoirs for January 1 to date is 10.11 inches, or 98% of average and 25% of the months average. Precipitation for the Water Year to date is 93.30 inches or 88% of average.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Main and the Rope Crew are in Bend, OR for rope training and recertifications. The maintenance crews are working on the fence at the Kittitas Shop, maintenance work has been completed on the Westside Irrigating Company Canal. Equipment is now moving upstream towards the Naneum Crossing for Winter Maintenance. Tree clearing is being done along the right-of-way in the Upper County.

Secretary Manager's Activity: Mr. Eberhart reported that Senator Murray and Senator Cantwell's Offices sent a letter to the Secretary of Interior in support of inflation reduction act funding requests for Yakima River Basin Project.

The second phase of the Upper Yakima System Storage (UYSS) Analysis will begin January 16-18, 2024. The analysis team will consist of specialists from Denver, Boise and the Yakima Basin. The team will be determining more specific details of the UYSS project.

The Washington State Water Resources Association (WSWRA) Legislative Day is January 17, 2024 in Olympia, WA.

On January 23-24, 2024, the Columbia Basin Collaborative – Integration/Recommendations Group will have a meeting in Spokane.

The 2024 Tri-State Meeting will be held in Portland, OR on February 2, 2024.

During the week of February 19, 2024 various KRD employees and Board Members will be traveling to Reno, NV to attend the 2024 Family Farm Alliance Annual Meeting.

Mr. Eberhart reported that the Kittitas County Joint Control Board #1 (KCJCB#1) had just had their Board Meeting prior to the KRD Board Meeting. During the meeting, Director Mel Dyk announced that Westside Irrigating Company no longer has a ditchrider and the KRD will be providing the ditchriding and water management operations moving forward. The hours and expenses accrued by the KRD will be reimbursed through the existing agreement. KRD employee, Josh

Weyend has been learning the operations and will help with ditchriding for the area.

Project Updates: The North Branch NBC 30.3-31.5 Change Order #4 allows N.A. Degerstrom to finish the remaining work that was previously bid on and not completed during the last construction season before water was turned back on.

A project schedule for the North Branch Canal Lining Project Stevens Rd to Vantage Hwy was provided to the Board. Director Hansen made a motion to approve Change Order #1 which provided an additional 1,400 feet of work to the existing base reach. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously. North Branch Change Order #2 which discusses sales tax being paid on supplies and materials and use tax being paid on the work to implement those products. Director Haberman made a motion to approve Change Order #2. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

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 December 2023 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 47929 - 48032 direct deposit numbers 9902876 through 9902893 in the sum of \$685,373.70 were approved with a motion made by Director Bland. The second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: The Family Farm Alliance 2024 Annual Contribution in the amount of \$5,951.20 was presented to the Board. Director Haberman made a motion to pay the invoice. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to pay the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) 1st Installment for CY 2024 Operation and Maintenance payment in the amount of \$299,500.00. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

After a discussion about the increase of Irrigation Director pay that was published in the Washington State Office of Financial Management, the board consensus was to retain the same rate of pay and not entertain the proposed increase.

Director Haberman made a motion to approve the Certification of 2013 Records Destruction. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

The Accountability Audit for 2021-2022 was concluded on December 19, 2023 with an Exit Meeting. The auditors made some recommendations to improve record keeping and policies but found no material issues to report.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:53 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 Hansen. The motion passed unanimously. Executive Session was extended for 10 additional minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:23 pm with a motion made by Director Hansen and the second was made by Director Bland. 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