

Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
February 6, 2024 Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on February 6, 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, Field Supervisor Bob Main, Treasurer Stacy Berg, KRD Land Clerk/RRA Specialist Sara Vickers, and Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower and KRD Landowner David Sadowski. Also in attendance was United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Yakima Field Office Area Manager Chad Stuart, Civil Engineer Chris Lynch, River Operator Doug Call and Electronic Engineer Joe Martinez.

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 January 9, 2024, Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Haberman. The second was made by Director Swanson. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: USBR Yakima Field Office Area Manager Chad Stuart provided a status report for the Yakima Field Office. Staff shortages continue to plague the office, which slows the production of projects. The Kachess Safety of Dams Project is continuing on schedule. At this point, there are no expected pool restrictions.

USBR Civil Engineer Chris Lynch advised that an official water forecast is forthcoming. He provided a water report which included the prior year trends and comparables. At this point, Mr. Lynch is projecting a pro-rationing of upper 70's to low 80's, however an actual number will be dependent on the future precipitation that is received in the upcoming months.

The construction portion of the Kachess Safety of Dams Project is expected to start this year. Scheduling for the project allow for water flows to run at a minimum up until flip flop and then adjust accordingly.

Legal Counsel Slothower asked Mr. Lynch if the water forecasts will be more frequent the closer we get to the water turn-on date. The forecasts are expected to remain at the same rate until the system is switched to storage control.

KRD Landowner David Sadowski took the opportunity to address USBR Yakima Field Office Area Manager Chad Stuart regarding the status of his bridge. After a brief conversation, Mr. Stuart advised he would look into the situation further and Mr. Sadowski can contact him directly.

Water Master Report: As of February 6, 2024 the five reservoirs are at 33% capacity. Precipitation at the five reservoirs for February 1 to date is .59 inches, or 13% of average and 2% of the months average. Precipitation for the Water Year to date is 124.22 inches or 89% of average. The Snotel sites for the Upper Yakima Basin are reporting 77% of average and the Naches Basin sites are at 69% of average.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Main advised that the vehicle maintenance is continuing in the Shop. There is a maintenance crew clearing right-of-way in the Upper County. There were some minor flood issues that were dealt with last week. An excavator is being used to shape the canal and clean debris in the Naneum and the second excavator is being used for right-of-way clearing in the upper county.

Secretary Manager's Activity: Upper Yakima System Storage (UYSS) Analysis Group met on January 16-18, 2024. There are a number of things that are being discussed that include, value planning, elevation, materials, the possibility of hydropower, and funding, among other things.

On January 23-24, 2024 Mr. Eberhart met with the Columbia Basin Collaborative – Integration/Recommendations Group. The group is attended by many organizations, government agencies and tribal representatives, who are working toward a strive in a collaborative effort on issues pertaining to the Columbia River Basin.

Mr. Eberhart participated on a panel for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Commission Habitat Committee on January 25, 2024. The panel provided an overview of land distribution of the Springwood Project. The property lines are still in the process of final refinement and then will be forwarded to a surveyor to establish the property lines.

The Tri-State Meeting was held in Portland, OR on February 2, 2024. A request for inflation reduction costs was submitted. The response to the request is expected this spring.

An Open House is scheduled for February 16, 2024 for the retirement of Rick Dieker, Yakima Tieton Irrigation District Manager.

The Family Farm Alliance Annual Meeting will be held the week of February 19, 2024 in Reno, NV.

The KRD proposed March 14, 2024, as a date for an upcoming Joint KRD/Roza Irrigation Board Meeting. The intent of this meeting would be to discuss the drought and other ancillary issues.

Director Hansen made a motion to accept the scope of work for the Easton Research & Rearing Facility Design Project KRD2022-PS-06.01. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Swanson made a motion to accept the General Engineering Change Order KRD2022-PS-01.2 which increased the threshold by \$40,000.00. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

The General Engineering Change Order KRD2022-PS-01.02.2 was presented to the board for approval for Project Management for additional reaches. Director Haberman made a motion to approve the Change Order. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Haberman made a motion to approve the Request for Bids – Telemetry Panels Purchase Order No. 650.124-RFM.01. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

There was a brief discussion over a conversation regarding and irrigation district's perspective on solar panels over canals.

Mr. Eberhart encouraged the Board to read High Country News Article: WA State is Leaving Tribal Cultural Resources at the Mercy of Solar Developers.

Director Swanson made a motion to change the April Board Meeting to April 2, 2024. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates: Change Order #2 for South Branch Piping 10.85-11.7 was presented to the Board. The Change Order allowed for foundation improvement reimbursement due to unsuitable foundation conditions. Director Hansen made a motion to approve KRD2023-GC-01 Change Order #2 in the amount of \$26,858.92. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to approve KRD2023-GC-01 Change Order #3 Awarding Optional Reach in the amount of \$3,194,098.14 / 2,490 LF. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

South Branch Piping Change Order #4 KRD2023-GC-01 was presented to the Board. Change Order #4 made adjustments for the Dewater & Trash Racks which resulted in a decrease in budget by \$9,779.43. Director Hansen made a motion to approve Change Order #4. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

The construction is continuing on the North Branch Lining 31.5 – 30.3. The contractor is currently laying rebar for the project.

Director Hansen made a motion to award a portion of Reach 3 for the North Branch Lining 27.5 - 30.3 Project Contract No. KRD2023-GC-02 in the amount of \$694,627.46 / 800 LF. 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 January 2024 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 48033 – 48111 direct deposit numbers 9902898 through 9902913 in the sum of \$1,094,614.18 were approved with a motion made by Director Swanson. The second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Director Hansen made a motion to pay the invoice for the Washington State Water Resource Association (WSWRA) Irrigation District Dues of \$22,000.00 and the legislative contribution of \$5,653.64 for a total of \$27,653.64. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

The invoice for the Yakima River Basin Coalition in the amount of \$32,638.10 was presented to the Board. Director Haberman made a motion to pay the invoice. A second was made by Director Swanson, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Swanson made a motion to approve the payment for the Yakima Basin Joint Board in the amount of \$43,000.00. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 2:25 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. Extended 10 minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:55 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