

Office of the Secretary Manager
Kittitas Reclamation District Board of Directors Meeting
December 10, 2024 Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) met in Regular Session on December 10, 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 Lands Clerk & RRA Specialist Sara Vickers and Legal Counsel Jeff Slothower. KRD Landowners Dave McDaniel, Eric Pentico, Connie Tatro and Mark Charlton were also present.

KRD Chairman Schnebly called the meeting to order. Director Haberman made a motion to open the Board of Equalization for the duration of the board meeting. A second was made by Director Bland, 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)(i):(iii). The motion was made by Director Swanson. A second was made by Director Bland, the motion passed unanimously.

The minutes for the November 5, 2024 Board Meeting were approved with a motion made by Director Bland. The second was made by Director Swanson. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: KRD Landowner Dave McDaniel said that through this last year of regularly attending the Board Meetings, speaking with the Water Master and Ditchrider he has learned that irrigation is a multifaceted system and there is a lot that goes into monitoring and regulating those flows. He wanted to express his appreciation for all of those involved.

Eric Pentico is a KRD Landowner on Clerf Rd, who addressed the Board regarding a letter that was sent certified in August to the KRD. In the letter, Mr. Pentico expresses some concerns regarding water management with a neighboring landowner who is the Water Master for this area. Mr. Pentico and other neighboring landowners ran out of water earlier than the water master and the concern is that if the water was dealt with in a more equitable way, they wouldn't

have ran out of water as soon. After reading on the website, Mr. Pentico had questions regarding the appointment of a water master and whether the Water Master was given authority to order water for him since he had not signed an authorization waiver. Mr. Pentico understood that the Water Master is to be keeping water records and asked if he could receive a copy of those records. He noted that on full water year there have not been any issues with water management.

Water Master Report: As of December 9, 2024 the five reservoirs are at 11% capacity which is 26.3% of average. Precipitation at the five reservoirs from December 1 to date 5.25 inches, or 62% of average and 42% of the months average. Precipitation for the water year is 45.42 inches, or 68% of average. The Snotel sites for the Upper Yakima Basin are reporting at 91% of average and the Naches Basin sites are at 127% of average. There is approximately 6 cfs being diverted for Tributary Supplementation at this time.

Maintenance Report: Field Supervisor Main reported that maintenance crews continue to work on access road maintenance, one excavator has finished working on the Westside Irrigating Company Canal and the other excavator has been working in the area of the golf course cleaning debris, trucks have been working on the back lot at the Kittitas Shop and winter maintenance is continuing in the shop. The Rope Crew has been working on the repairs provided in the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) inspection for the Easton Dam. They finished filling cracks, removing calcification and cleaning moss. The team moved to the Yakima Siphon today where they will be patching some areas in the vertical shaft and removing debris. A larger diesel generator welder was rented to allow for 100 foot lead to make some of the repairs. There are approximately 120 areas of grout that is starting to wear out which the crews will repair with an epoxy application. The rope work is projected to be complete by the end of the week.

Secretary Manager's Activity: Mr. Eberhart attended the Columbia Basin Collaborative Integration/Recommendations Group Meetings in Walla Walla November 14-15, 2024.

On November 21, 2024 Mr. Eberhart participated in a panel presentation for the County Leaders Conference in Vancouver, WA.

Mr. Eberhart has continued to participate in the System Operations Advisory Committee Facilitated Discussions as the group works through the advisories process.

Director Hansen, Director Haberman, Legal Counsel Slothower and Mr. Eberhart attended the Washington State Water Resource Association Annual Conference in Spokane, WA December 4-6, 2024.

Mr. Eberhart will be participating in a panel presentation for the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan to the Fish and Wildlife Commission Big Tent Committee on December 12, 2024.

Project Updates: Approximately 4,000 feet of channel has been excavated on the North Branch Canal Lining 30.3 to 27.5. The lining and concrete will be laid in January.

South Branch Piping Milepost 12.4-12.8 Project is progressing well. The geogrid has been laid and the construction crew is now distributing rock that will be the base of the road.

Treasurer's Report: The Director's monthly payroll vouchers were presented for signatures. Summary Vouchers for the November 2024 expenses and payroll which included check numbers 48882 - 48965 direct deposit numbers 9903116 through 9903134 in the sum of \$833,864.31 were approved with a motion made by Director Hanson. The second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: KRD Legal Counsel Slothower provided a detailed description of the review of the current Crossing and Use Policy. The KRD continues to work with Reclamation to get a more thorough and permanent agreement in place, but in the interim there was some clarification to the document that needed to be changed to make the policy more transparent. The recommendation is to change the policy to make it clear that it only applies to sections of the canal and laterals that the KRD owns. There is no authority for the KRD to allow crossings for Reclamation right-of-way. Director Bland made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-10 Crossing and Use Policy. A second was made by Director Hansen, the motion passed unanimously.

Director Hansen made a motion to set a Budget Meeting for December 17, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

Chairman Schnebly polled the audience to determine if there were any attendees that wanted to contest the Board of Equalization, there was no response. Director

Hansen made a motion to close the Board of Equalization Resolution 2024-11. A second was made by Director Haberman, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 1:38 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 Swanson. Executive Session was extended an additional 30 minutes. The Board returned to Regular Session at 2:23 pm with a motion made by Director Haberman and the second was made by Director Hansen. 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