## Klamath Project Drought Response Agency

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, October 2, 2025, 2:00 pm
KWUA Board Room, 2312 South Sixth Street, Suite A
Klamath Falls, Oregon
Available Via Zoom:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89163452440?pwd=Z7oN40IL6oBVCuLPac6NNrlmT3xr0T.1

Meeting ID: 891 6345 2440 Passcode: 078106 Phone/Call In Number: 346 248 7799

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call of Directors
- 3. Appoint Directors
  - a. Malin/Shasta View Director, Current Member, Rob Unruh vacant position due to resignation, to be appointed by directors from KID (Ty), KDD (Scotty) and TID (Marc).
  - b. At Large Director, Current Member Paul Crawford, term expiration, to be appointed by director from Van Brimmer (Mike), Malin/Shasta View (Rob's Replacement), and KBID (Luke)
- 4. Public Comment: This is the time for any member of the public to address the Board of Directors on any matter not on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency. Comments shall be limited to five minutes per person, or such other time limit as may be imposed by the Chairman of the Board, in order to enable the Board to complete the remainder of the agenda within a reasonable period of time.
- 5. Review and Approve Minutes
- 6. Review/Approve and/or Ratify Bills, Invoices and Financial Reports
- 7. Update/Discussion Regarding Status of Funding Applications
  - a. Enhancement Act Funding for Annual KPDRA No Irrigation Programs Approved and Available for 2026 \$9.2 Million
    - i. Programs could include Full Season, Partial Season, or Other
    - ii. Authorize Further Action
  - b. Water to Refuge \$18 Million (Through 2031)
    - 1. Funding to DRA can be spent without significant restriction
      - a. Discussion
        - i. New Programs
        - ii. Supplemental Funding for Existing Programs
        - iii. Other Alternatives include pumping cost reimbursement (full or other) and other potential projects
      - b. Authorize Next Steps
        - i. Work Session
          - 1. Identify Partners/Participants
          - 2. Seek Additional Information
        - ii. Other
  - c. USFS Pumping Reimbursement
    - i. \$750,000 available to reimburse pumping costs to refuge
    - ii. Discuss and Approve or Authorize Application for Funding
      - 1. Authorize Next Steps
  - d. IRA Long Term Funding Application Pending- Approval Likely in First Quarter of 2026 (See Attachment)
    - i. \$25 Million for 2026-2030
      - 1. Multi Year Demand Reduction
      - 2. Modified Practices

- ii. Next Steps Regarding Program Development
  - 1. Work Session
    - a. Identify Partners/Participants
    - b. Seek Additional Information
  - 2. Further Discussion, Steps to be taken
- 8. Discussion regarding upcoming meeting times/dates
- 9. Next Steps

**Adjourn to** next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Klamath Project Drought Response Agency. Should you need accommodations, please contact Nathan Ratliff, Counsel for the KPDRA, at 541 882-6331.

## I. Demand Reduction And Modified Practices Emphasis (\$25 Million)

## A. Multi-Year Demand Reduction

This program will be based on forbearance contracts between Klamath Project Drought Response Agency (DRA) and producers that are substantially longer in duration than recent DRA programs' contracts. DRA and Reclamation will further define metrics and methods to evaluate effectiveness of this program in the final agreement. No later than December 20, 2024 Reclamation and DRA will complete the development of a proposed grant agreement, and no later than January 10, 2025, Reclamation and DRA will take action to approve or disapprove the grant agreement, which will be for a DRA program that includes the following elements.

Pursuant to the following programs under the authority of Section 50233 of the IRA:

- 1. The DRA would enter into contracts with some producers for a term of three, four, or five years. (Here, "producers" will be a defined term in the contracts that covers persons / entities actually engaged in farming.)
- 2. The producer or landowner would receive payment immediately after verification of compliance for each year.
- 3. The non-irrigated land must: a) be in the authorized place of use of the Klamath Project and under contract with Reclamation; and b) have been irrigated or enrolled in a DRA program in one of the three crop years preceding the date of the contract between DRA and the producer. Rotations of the area of non-irrigation within the operational control of a producer are anticipated.
- 4. In addition to the base payments under "3.," the program would be "tiered" in that it would also include opportunities for "add-ons" that would provide ecosystem benefits, each of which would be incentivized by supplemental payment. Not less than twenty percent of the payments to producers under the Multi-Year Demand Reduction Program will be for these actions, which could include:
  - a. Healthy living ecosystem practices (soil, air quality);
  - b. Wildlife-friendly planting / management;
  - c. Others

## **B.** Modified Practices Emphasis

This program will be based on contracts between the DRA and producers, and will be covered in the same agreement as the multiyear demand reduction program. Contracts will provide for planting of substitute crops (including fall planted rather than spring planted), adjusting timing of cropping patterns or deficit irrigation practices. The DRA will target at least twenty percent of total payments to producers under part "I" to occur under this program, subject to reduction to not less than ten percent of the total payments to producers under part "I" if there is insufficient commodity market or producer demand for the target of twenty percent of total payments.