

Regular Meeting Minutes

**Klamath Project Drought Response Agency
Regular Board Meeting
May 11, 2020
2:00 pm**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Marc Staunton, the President, called the regular scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Klamath Project Drought Response Agency (KPDRA) to order on Tuesday, May 11, 2020, at 2:11 pm via the on-line conference platform called Zoom.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Marc Staunton, Luther Horsley, Paul Crawford, Jerry Enman, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen, Luke Robison
Guests: Mark Van Camp, Chelsea Shearer, Paul Simmons, Bill Ganong, Kyle Knutson, Brad Kirby, Gene Souza, Nathan Ratliff, Kent Grossman, Chris Moudry, Tara Wright, Steve Miller, Lynn Pope, Laurie Askew, Hurley Cope, Bill Walker, Margie Gravener, Bill Boyle, Mark VanCamp, Russell Peterson, Skyler Peterson, Todd Kepple, and Cheri Unruh.
Media Presence: none

Agenda

Marc Staunton suggested that agenda item #5 be moved to follow agenda item #3.

Motion: To approve agenda with changes.

Motion by: Rob Unruh Second: Paul Crawford

Motion Carried.

There are no previous minutes to consider

Updated Information and discussion regarding current water supply

Paul Simmons of KWUA stated that 140,000 acre-feet is the last official allocation number that has been released. However, he expects that there will be serious reductions based on the NRCS May 1st forecast.

Updated Information and Discussion Regarding Previously Approved Programs

Mark VanCamp of MBK Engineers, stated that applications are open with three programs advertising. (1) Groundwater (2) drought response programs, one full season and a second that is a partial season, and (1) focused well-pumping program targeting the top 30 wells signed up in the groundwater program.

There are 155 drought response programs (140) Full season totaling approximately 11,000 Acres and (17) partial season, (60) wells signed up under the program with (12) being in focus well-pumping program. There are 70 additional applications received but not processed, therefore not included in the count.

Mike McKoen and Luther Horsley both agreed that with all the uncertainties right now that we should push the date to May 31 in the partial season programs. This topic was tabled by consensus to be discussed more after #6.

Updated Information and Discussion Regarding Funding Sources

Nathan Ratliff stated that he is unsure if DRA will be able to fulfill Reclamation's contract in full; he does believe DRA may be able to contract ½ with given applications. Moss Driscoll with Reclamation stated that he thinks there could be favorable changes made to the contract, including the upper lake credit of 5-6 Thousand Acre-feet (TAF). Potentially Reclamation may be able to make modifications of the contract for a higher price per acre as it seems the Refuge will not be receiving water.

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Paul Simmons stated that KWUA is working on other funding sources under the 2000 authorization. Section 15G of the Commodities act came from Klamath's legislation of the Secretary of Interior, this discussion is happening later today

Discuss And Consider Authorization of Partial Season Program

Discussion about changing the name of for the March- September program was suggested to differentiate it from others. Bill Ganong suggested keeping it simple, and the applicant fills out one application, and the MBK staff sort it out. Mike McKoen and Rob Unruh are not in favor of a 100% payout on this program. A compensation is hard to develop as the money is still unknown; it appears the payment should be somewhere between 100% and 50%.

Motion: To pay 70% on the limited drought irrigation program

Motion by: Jerry Enman Second: Mike McKoen

Discussion: ensued which led to an amendment

Amended motion: to pay 67% formula of payout for the limited drought irrigation program.

Motion by: Jerry Enman Second: Luther Horsley

Motion Carried.

Rob stated that everything is getting too complicated. He suggested the DRA put a date of tomorrow at 5 pm and then divide it up equally for what applications they receive.

Motion: To set a date for inclusion in the limited drought irrigation program at 5 pm tomorrow (May 12, 2020) to water.

Motion by: Rob Unruh Second: Mike McKoen

Motion Carried.

A discussion on end dates ensued and resulted in the board feeling there are too many different dates that will confuse people and reduce the number of applicants.

Motion: To extend all program end dates to June 10, 2020 including the previously approved programs.

Motion by: Luther Horsley Second: Jerry Enman

Motion Carried.

Motion: To authorize the limited irrigation drought (LID) based on policy, application presented by staff to included amendments made today.

Motion by: Jerry Enman Second: Luther Horsley

Motion Carried.

Public Comment: None

Next meeting will be held on June 8, 2020 at 2 pm

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 4:42 pm.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Motion by: Rob Unruh Second: Luther Horsley

Motion Carried.

Minutes prepared by Chelsea Shearer

Approved: Marc Staunton  President

Approved: Rob Unruh  Secretary