

# Regular Meeting Minutes

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## Klamath Project Drought Response Agency Special Board Meeting June 23, 2021 11:00 am

### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Marc Staunton, the President, called the special scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Klamath Project Drought Response Agency (KPDRA) to order on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 11:09 am at KWUA boardroom at 2312 South Sixth Street and via the online conference platform called Zoom.

### ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Marc Staunton, Luther Horsley, Jerry Enman, Paul Crawford (via zoom), and Mike McKoen  
Guests: Chelsea Shearer, Kyle Knutson, Nathan Ratliff, Bill Ganong, Moss Driscoll, Mike Neuman, and Gene Souza  
Media Presence: none

### Status of Bureau of Reclamation Grant Programs

Nathan stated that the grant has been approved for \$15 million and is available. However, the Board needs to review and approve the budget. The draft budget with input from Contractors is presented to the Board for review and discussion. The budget should reflect that KWUA is still working on other funding. The budget narrative should include; salaries and wages, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, and contractual needs.

Marc Staunton asks if they should submit the budget without a domestic well mitigation program. Nathan stated that he feels that the Domestic Well Mitigation program is not feasible right now. KWUA and the County Commissioners are trying to coordinate with OWRD. If that changes, the DRA can make changes later. Moss Driscoll stated that the only resource currently is the list of phone numbers to well-drillers and pump maintenance people. Marc stated that he is sad to see regulation of Ag affecting domestic residents county-wide. Luther stated that it is naive of BOR to not think that when they reversed the Basin's hydrology by taking Ag water downstream, that it would not affect the area. Mike Neuman stated that it is not the appearance of need for well mitigation; the issue is to have the authority. Luther asks Mr. Neuman to request BOR to look into it. Mike McKoen is worried about the optics; it is viewed that domestic well problems are ag-related, and it is "putting us in a metaphoric corner." He also doesn't want to have to choose a "winner or loser" in the Domestic Well problems. Paul Crawford agrees with McKoen's perspective.

**Motion: Motion to Approve \$15 Million 2021 KPDRA BOR Grant Budget, as presented, with zero allocation for DWMP, Groundwater Program and Partial Season Program, i.e., all funds allocated toward No Irrigation Program.**

**Motion by: Rob Unruh Second: Luther Horsley**

Discussion: Luther Horsley asks to be on record that he feels the DRA has a responsibility for domestic wells going dry, but due to "BOR's red tape, it makes it impossible for the DRA to assist.

**Motion Carried unanimously**

Paul Simmons stated that there is a letter to the Governor that is getting traction. There is a larger general disaster budget that may assist as well as House Bill 5006 may also address these issues. Part of the funds KWUA requested from the Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) board will address the lack of funding for domestic wells and it will also reimburse districts members O&M for 2020 or apply to 2021.

Kyle Knutson stated they have only received 28 applications far for the No Irrigation; there is a workshop set for July 19 in Oregon.

Marc Staunton stated that Tulelake Irrigation District voted to retain Marc Staunton as their representative. Luther has also been retained as KDD's representative. Jerry stated that KID did not want to revisit the nomination; therefore, he is renewed by default.

### Public Comment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 11:50 am.

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion by: Rob Unruh Second: Luther Horsley**

**Motion Carried unanimously**

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Next meeting will be on July 14, 2021, at 11:00 am.

Minutes prepared by Chelsea Shearer

Approved: Marc Staunton\_\_\_\_\_, President

Approved: Rob Unruh\_ \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary