

# Regular Meeting Minutes

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**Klamath Project Drought Response Agency  
Regular Board Meeting  
June 9, 2021  
11:00 am**

## **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 Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 11:05 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, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen

Guests: Chelsea Shearer, Kyle Knutson, Nathan Ratliff, Bill Ganong, Mike Neuman, Nick Grounds, David Rangel, Dan Scalas, Mark Johnson, and Marc VanCamp

Media Presence: none

## Minutes

The Board was presented with the minutes from may for approval. On page 4, the abbreviation of FDO needs to read FOD.

Motion: Motion to approve the May minutes with the changes.

Motion by: Mike McKoen Second: Rob Unruh

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

## Financials

The Board was presented with financials and outstanding invoices. Amy updated the Board with the May 31<sup>st</sup> bank statements. 2019-2020 fiscal year financial summary of revenues and expenditures showed no deficiencies. The financial statements and analysis of the financial activities of the DRA for the year as of June 30, 2020 was reviewed. The highlights are: (1) assets of the agency exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$1,686,886, which may be used to meet the citizens and creditors. (2) total assets decreased by \$207,713. (3) ending funds balance as of 6-30-20 was \$1,686,886.

Motion: Motion to approve Current Financial Statement, subject to audit, and payment and ratification of invoices submitted to Board.

Motion by: Luther Horsley Second: Mike McKoen

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

Motion: Motion to approve 2019-2020 Financial Review

Motion by: Rob Unruh Second: Jerry Enman

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

Motion: Motion to authorize Marc Staunton to set up a new bank account for Grant funds, to execute necessary resolution, and to name Board member signers.

Motion by: Mike McKoen Second: Luther Horsley

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

## Insurance Quotes

Motion: Motion to approve insurance change without umbrella coverage

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Motion by: Mike McKoen      Second: Rob Unruh

Marc Staunton calls for vote:

Jerry Enman: No

Rob Unruh: Aye

Mike McKoen: Aye

Luther Horsley: Aye

Marc Staunton: Aye

Motion Carried.

Jerry asks the Nathan to put it on the agenda for the next meeting to look at the coverage for \$2 million and \$1 million to compare premiums for umbrellas

The Board was presented with the results from the new RFP from Parks and Ratliff and Isler & Co., Jerry, to see the fee schedule for Ratliff displayed on the screen. There were no other applicants; the committee recommends accepting the RFP applicants.

Motion: to authorize negotiation with Parks & Ratliff for Legal Services and Isler & Co for accounting services in accordance with RFP.

Motion by: Mike McKoen      Second: Rob Unruh

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

## Status of Grant Application

Nathan reviews the status of the grant application and funding projections. The grant is moving forward in the Reclamation channels. Mike Neumann stated that the language submitted was accepted, and Reclamation is hoping to have the grant fully funded by month-end. Secretarial approval is still needed. Currently, the grant sits with the acting Commissioner. Reclamation's Branch Chief is working on getting the financial package out, it could be as soon as this Friday. There will need to be expanded terms from March 2022, to October 30, 2022.

## Review Information from MBK regarding current Project irrigation status

MBK staffer, Kyle Knutson, stated that they could use satellite views to help with the verification process. Currently, it does show quite a bit of water being used. However, Mike McKoen and Rob Unruh both agreed that it is an excellent tool to have. They could gain weekly reports pending the smoke cover. Kyle stated that he would share the website with the group. Additional services can be purchased; they could use our field maps and then could track the field in real-time for a cost.

## Review and Approve 2021 No Irrigation Program Policy and Application

Motion: To approve 2021 No Irrigation Program Application as presented with a start date of June 10, 2021, and application received by the close date of July 30, 2021, 5 pm, removing reference to crop grown, correcting program name to No Irrigation, add "I confirm" to non-irrigation question with initial and conforming to policy. Motion also authorizes any 2 Board members to make minor technical/proofreading revisions, if necessary.

Motion by: Mike McKoen      Second: Jerry Enman

Vote: Unanimous- Rob Unruh was not present while the vote took place

Motion Carried

## Review and Approve 2021 Domestic Well Mitigation Program Policy and Application

The Board discussed the means to which they could offer a well mitigation policy. Mike Neuman stated that the "program is intended for help from groundwater pumping, not our leaky ditches." He continued that if there is a well that goes dry it is a State issue. The terms of this grant are related to pumping and the enhancement act. Should there be a program, districts in non-compliance of the 2021 Operations plan would not be eligible for domestic well mitigation. Marc Staunton asked Mr. Neuman who determines the affected area? He stated that in (b.3), OWRD is the authority as written. It also does not cover lands in California.

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Klamath County Commissioners Morris and Boyd are working on other means for a well mitigation program to assist the community.

**Motion: Motion to table the Drought Well Mitigation Program due to current uncertainty.**

**Motion by: Jerry Enman    Second: Mike McKoen**

Marc calls for a vote:

Luther Horsley-Eye

Marc Staunton- Eye

Jerry Enman- Eye

Mike McKoen- Eye

Rob Unruh- Eye

**Motion Carried unanimously.**

It is proposed that two application workshops will be held prior to the close of the program. MBK will advertise the program with the newspaper and KWUA will use their radio spots for advertising as well as their social media.

**Motion: Motion to Authorize expenditure of up to \$10000 for publicity of 2021 Programs, at the direction of Jerry Enman, and to direct MBK to schedule appropriate workshops for program application.**

**Motion by: Jerry Enman                      Second: Mike McKoen**

**Vote: Unanimous- Rob Unruh was not present while the vote took place.**

**Motion Carried**

## **Public Comment**

David Rangel from a company named the Water Trian has offered to help with our lack of water. His organization buys water from willing sellers and moves that water via rail car to areas of need. He is capable of moving two acre-feet of water a month to our area, which would cost approximately \$60,000 per acre pending on rail costs. The Board listened to his offer. However, the need in the basin is greater than he could provide, approximately 320,000 acre-feet are needed to make the Project whole, and at \$60,000 an acre-foot, they could not afford that water.

## **Discussion regarding the administration of additional programs if additional funds become available**

Paul Simmons of KWUA and MaryAnne Cooper of the Oregon Farm Bureau are working together for the possibility of a Project and Off Project mitigation program. He was asked if the DRA would administer it if funding was obtained. The DRA doesn't have the current authority and would have to amend its charter status to accommodate such a program. The more political question would be where does the funding goes. Paul recommended that Off Project could go to the County, and DRA could administer the On Project.

Jerry stated that he does not have time to develop Off Project plans and programs. Mike McKoen agrees, while he wants to help, it would be too much at this time, nor does he want all the "red tape" they are dealing with now. Paul Simmons stated he understands, it was asked because the KPDRRA seems reliable and they are looking for a way to move funds for Off Project. It was concluded that at this time, there is not enough information to make an informed decision; if needed, the founding member districts could be polled to see what their thoughts would be.

KPDRA President Marc Staunton call the meeting into Executive Session at 2:55 pm pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning legal rights and duties with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. The Board exited Executive Session at 2:59 pm.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 12:05 pm.

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion by: Jerry Enman                      Second: Mike McKoen**

**Motion Carried.**

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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