

KPDRA Regular Meeting Minutes

Klamath Project Drought Response Agency
Regular Board Meeting
February 13, 2025
2:00 pm

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Marc Staunton, the President, called the regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Klamath Project Drought Response Agency (KPDRA) to order on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 2:14 pm via the online conference platform called Zoom.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Ty Kliewer, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen
Guests: Dustin Boham, Kyle Knutson, Nathan Ratliff, Mike Neuman, and Gene Souza

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Review/ Approve and/ Or Ratify bills, Invoices, and Financial Reports

Nathan reviewed the audit findings. The agency was in compliance, and there were no significant findings; the board addressed the small recommended changes.

Motion: Approve the audit as presented.

Motion by: Rob Unruh Second: Mike McKoen

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Ty Kliewer, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

Nathan reviewed the bills and has submitted them to the board for approval. Financial Reports reviewed, but note need to get the info in a usable format based on the program year.

Motion: Motion to pay the outstanding bills as presented.

Motion by: Mike McKoen Second: Paul Crawford

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Ty Kliewer, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

Review Minutes

The Board was provided with the September 2024 and December 2024 meeting minutes for review. Following review and a correction to the December minutes roll call, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

Motion: Motion to pay the outstanding bills as presented.

Motion by: Mike McKoen Second: Paul Crawford

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen. Ty Kliewer- No response.

Motion Passes

Receive Report Regarding 2024 Program Administration

Staff provided an update on the status of 2024 program administration. All prior-year applications have been processed, and the corresponding payments have been issued. The agenda allowed for possible Board action on new or pending applications; however, the Board took no action regarding any previously denied applications. Staff presented the application KDR240572 for 20.2 acres of full-season idling for recommended approval. This application was received on June 14 via email, and verified in compliance with KBID. This application was received on time, and was accidentally omitted in the list submitted for approval from staff.

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Motion: Motion to approve application KDR240572 for 20.2 acres of full-season idling.

Motion by: Paul Crawford Second: Scotty Fenters

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Ty Kliewer, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

During the discussion, staff were directed to follow up on several administrative items and noted that future policy revisions may be needed to address issues related to partial parcel applications and pivot corners. The Board also discussed potential opportunities for securing additional program funding.

Motion: Motion to pay the outstanding bills as presented.

Motion by: Mike Mckoen Second: Paul Crawford

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Ty Kliewer, Rob Unruh, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

Discuss Additional Funding


The Board held a general discussion regarding 2025 program funding. It was reported that the Bureau of Reclamation may be unable to provide funding for 2025 due to operations under a Continuing Resolution (CR). The Board also reviewed the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and "Water Availability" Agreement, including development of potential programs under the MOU. Staff noted some uncertainty related to the new administration's financial review process; while no issues have been identified with the MOU program itself, it will require additional review prior to approval. Discussion focused on prioritizing producers as primary applicants and on supporting modified practices, including the use of cover crops and alternative crop rotations. The Board also discussed the status of pending applications, and Nathan reported that the application for the five-year program has been submitted.

Marc Staunton left the meeting at 3:15 pm, and Mike McKoen led the meeting.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by consensus at 3:38 pm

Minutes prepared by Chelsea Shearer

Approved: Marc Staunton  President

Approved: Rob Unruh  Secretary

Tricia Walker