

# Regular Meeting Minutes

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Klamath Project Drought Response Agency  
Regular Board Meeting  
October 2, 2025  
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 Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 2:20 pm at 2312 South. 6<sup>th</sup> St. Suite A, and via the online conference platform called Zoom.

## ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Paul Crawford, Tricia Walker, and Mike McKoen

Guests: Kyle Knutson, Brad Kirby, Scott White, Nathan Ratliff, Elizabeth Nielsen, Chelsea Shearer, and Gene Souza

## Appoint Directors

Malin/Shasta View Director, Current Member is Rob Unruh, whose term was finished in July 2025, but still sits in the seat until the board appoints a replacement. He gave his resignation effective September 1, 2025. Nathan stated that Tricia Walker has volunteered to fill the position. Scotty Fenters nominated Tricia to fill the vacancy.

Motion: To nominate Tricia Walker to sit on the board of directors as the Malin/ShastaView Director.

Motion by: Scotty Fenters Second: Marc Staunton

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Paul Crawford, Scotty Fenters, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

Tricia Walker is sworn in by Nathan Ratliff.

Motion: To nominate Marc Staunton as President, Mike McKoen as Vice President.

Motion by: Paul Crawford Second: Mike McKoen

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Tricia Walker, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

Motion: To nominate Tricia Walker as Secretary.

Motion by: Mike McKoen Second: Paul Crawford

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

## Public Comment

No Public Comment

## Review and Approve Minutes

The board was presented with the July 3, 2025 and August 13, 2025 meeting minutes for review.

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented

Motion by: Mike McKoen Second: Paul Crawford

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Tricia Walker, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

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

Nathan reviewed and presented the June and July bills for Board approval. He reported continued coordination with Amy Chipman to address adjustments needed in the Profit and Loss statements. The Board requested that each of the four grants be tracked separately rather than collectively. Amy told Nathan she can address the issue after October 15. Nathan will provide an update once a resolution is developed.

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Motion: To approve the bills and authorize payment of the invoices as presented.

Motion by: Mike McKoen                      Second: Scotty Fenters

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, Tricia Walker, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

*Tricia Walker left the meeting at 2:40 pm.*

### Status of Funding Applications

Nathan reported that, historically, the agency has operated and developed programs prior to receiving funding. However, with the Enhancement Act Funding, that approach will not apply to the 2026 programs. He noted that \$9.2 million is currently available. Scotty Fenters emphasized the importance of identifying and confirming funding levels for the next five years to allow the KPDR to plan and utilize resources most effectively.

Marc Staunton discussed the *Water to the Refuge* program, noting that \$18 million in funding is available through 2031. He stated that the Board should determine the type of program to be implemented under this funding. Nathan indicated he does not yet have the name of the program lead but acknowledged Brad's assistance in the process. Brad provided estimates based on previous refuge water deliveries, suggesting a rate of \$450 per acre-foot for 40,000 acre-feet of water to the refuge. He also encouraged the Board to request that funding be made retroactive to January 1.

The Board agreed that, in addition to Brad's continued involvement, Scott White and Elizabeth Nielsen should also participate in these discussions. There are currently no spending requirements for the funds, and one option discussed was reimbursing districts for pumping costs. Elizabeth will contact Reclamation to determine if retroactive payments are possible. The Board continued its discussion on methods to move water at the lowest possible cost, with Scott White and Brad Kirby tasked with developing potential strategies.

The conversation then turned to next steps, including identifying potential partners and participants. Nathan will explore whether the KPDR can become a member of the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) or, if not, determine an alternative banking option that could be utilized.

Motion: To authorize Marc Staunton to sign the notices of water availability for the KPDR.

Motion by: Scotty Fenters                      Second: Mike McKoen

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

The group will host a work session during the week of November 17<sup>th</sup>. Nathan will send out a poll for the date.

### USFW Pumping Reimbursement

A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) grant in the amount of \$750,000 is available to cover pumping costs to the refuge. KWUA requested that the KPDR review the grant opportunity and, if appropriate, submit an application. The grant application is due October 25, with funds required to be utilized by 2027. Nathan estimated that administering the grant could cost the DRA approximately \$22,000. Mike McKoen stated that the grant appeared to be a good fit for KPDR and expressed his support for submitting the application.

Motion: To direct staff to submit and application for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife grant and allow the chairman to sign it.

Motion by: Mike McKoen                      Second: Paul Crawford

Roll call: Unanimous, Marc Staunton, Scotty Fenters, and Mike McKoen

Motion Passes

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### IRA Long Term Funding Application Pending/ Next Steps


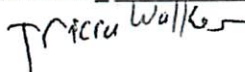
A discussion was held regarding funding for pumping associated with the Flow-Through project. Nathan reported that the IRA Long-Term Application has been submitted and is currently pending. He indicated that approval appears likely, though it may not occur until the first quarter of 2026. Should the application be awarded, there will be a need to develop detailed project specifications.

The Board discussed potential approaches and determined that a dedicated work session is necessary to further evaluate options. The date of November 19 was confirmed for this session.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by consensus at 4:05 pm.

Minutes prepared by Chelsea Shearer

Approved: Marc Staunton  President

Approved: Rob Unruh  Secretary  
 Tricia Walker 