

Arnold Irrigation District  
Monthly Board Meeting

October 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm by Bob Schuur. Board members present were Bob Schuur, Jon Smith, Walt Warchol, and Rob Rastovich. Staff members present were Colin Wills, Chris Webb, Juanita Harvey, and Ashley Buckner. Also present was the District's attorney, Garrett Chrostek, Gen Hubert from the DRC (Deschutes River Conservancy), and patron Steve Keffer.

1. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Bob motioned, and Walt seconded his motion to approve the September board meeting minutes and the two sets of LCRB (Local Contract Review Board) minutes with noted changes made by Bob. The vote was unanimous in favor.
2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Jon motioned, and Walt seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. MANAGER'S REPORT:

- a. WATER REPORT: The water was turned off for the season on September 30, 2024. Chris did a great job of managing the water this season.

The District did not use any storage out of Crane Prairie except for 20AF in July.

Before we shut off for the season, the State came and did a calibration for us so we could perform an accurate calibration to the butterfly valve and also for the State to calibrate where their new equipment will be.

- b. FINANCIALS: The LGIP account balances as of September 30<sup>th</sup> were as follows: \$14,911.73 in Operating, \$730,471.43 in Modernization, and \$82,671.66 in Reserves.

Jon will not be available to be on the Budget committee this year. Colin will be calling Bob or Roger to take his place.

- c. MODERNIZATION PROJECT UPDATE: Colin spoke with Gary Diriodoni from the NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service). There is 1.4 million of the previous grant funds which had not been used in Phase 1 because we went into Segment 1 of Phase 2.

Colin added 5% for contingencies to the K&E bid for a total of 13.6 million. We currently do not have enough money to apply to Phase 2 plus inflation. We have

10.2 million on the Federal side and 3.4 million on the State side. Therefore, we need an additional 3.3 million on the Federal side and 254,000 on the State side.

Colin asked Gary at the NRCS if we could roll over the remaining money from Phase 1. Gary said that we could. He would allocate as rollover funds.

Garrett stated that we could augment and fix the contract to what was originally proposed. We need to notify K&E regarding our available funds before they are completed with 80% of the project (while they are still working). We are within the contract parameters so no further justification is needed.

The process with NRCS to get the additional funds could take 1 to 2 months.

Steve Keffer asked how far into the project they would be at 80%. Per Chris, it would be about 150 feet upstream from China Hat (on the Ward property). Bringing the power to the inlet at that point will be expensive in that area.

Arnold has signed the contract. We are waiting for K&E's signature.

#### 4. OPERATION MANAGER'S REPORT:

A large swath of brush was removed from the canal area which was approximately 25 to 35 pick-up loads of debris.

The flume liner arrived, and the crew will begin installing it later this month.

A large live deer was removed from the flume earlier this month.

The crew followed the SOP for shut off. Everything is winterized and the headgate needs to be locked out per OSHA before the Phase 2 project begins.

The hole at the end of the baffle in the main canal pipe has been covered.

Deschutes County Weed Department was called to spray for noxious weeds. They will wait until next year.

Willows on the McArdle ditch which have been obstructing the flow of water in the canal will be cut and removed by the inmate crew with the help of the excavator.

The inmate crew has been scheduled to clean out at the Estes pipe near the road at Arnold Market Rd.

5. OFFICE REPORT: Juanita is in the process of training Ashley for office duties, and getting the office organized for easier functionality for new office staff. Also getting ready for assessments, and working on transfers, and patron files.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

a. OWRD – CERTIFICATE NUMBERS: Gen from the DRC was present to help the Board understand how much water will be diverted after each Phase.

Gen stated that Colin did a great job of negotiating the certificate numbers but OWRD was using #'s that were not acceptable. OWRD's starting numbers were 91 and AID's numbers were 110. OWRD would not fund us with a starting number of 118. With OWRD numbers, they did not account for peaks and fluctuations in the season.

Our conserved water will go to NUID and they will release in the winter.

The Roats water will come off the certificate before the paper water right comes off of certificate and the rate is reduced.

The District ran at 80 cfs during our peak time this season.

Our wet water numbers are pretty close to what we historically diverted.

We will be submitting our application for conserved water with Gen this winter for Phase 1.

Piping isn't taking away from what is being used on farm.

There was a higher rate of loss in Phase 1 so we cannot use the same numbers for Phase 2.

We will re-measure for Phase 3 and 4.

Colin will send our numbers to Jeremy Giffin, Carolyn Sufit, and Emily McKain, and the Salem OWRD office asking them to send us in writing saying they agree with our certificate cut numbers.

The numbers agreement has to be finalized soon so we can receive our next grant funds.

The State grant will be used for FA (pipe). We cannot use TA funds until such a time as State and AID have come to agreement on the certificate numbers.

The Board agreed to move forward with this process.

7. NEW BUSINESS: There were no items of new business to discuss.

8. OPEN FORUM:

Kowalski's at the end of Hanes Road have a bridge which needs to be moved. Apparently, TNW had agreed to remove the bridge. We need emails from Sara Kowalski regarding communications between the Kowalski's and TNW.

There has been a lot of traffic on the road over the pipe. A closing gate is necessary and the Woll's at the end of the Main Canal have installed a gate. This will be communicated to the Kowalski's.

"Private" and "Do Not Enter" signs will also be posted at the end of the canal.

Bob updated the Strategic Plan and Lessons Learned and sent it out to the Board. The board agreed to review at the November board meeting. Also to be included on the November agenda is the review of the updated Strategic Plan.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: There weren't any items that needed discussion in Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.