

Arnold Irrigation District

Annual Meeting  
Board of Equalization  
Monthly Board Meeting

January 10, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Bob Schuur at 8:35 am. Board members present were Bob Schuur, Jon Smith, and Walt Warchol via phone. Staff members present were Steve Johnson, Chris Webb, and Juanita Harvey. Also present were the District's attorneys Mark Reinecke and Brooke Olsen.

1. ANNUAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
2. BOARD ORGANIZATION: Referencing the minutes of the January 11, 2022, meeting as required under ORS 545.181, the Board of Directors agreed to meet today.
  - a. As required under ORS 545.181(a), the board shall elect a president and vice president from their number and appoint a secretary, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the board. Currently, Bob Schuur has the president seat, Jon Smith has the vice-president seat and Walt Warchol has the secretary seat. Bob asked that if all board members were happy with their positions, all positions would stay as they currently are. All board members present agreed that they were happy in their board positions. Bob motioned to keep positions as they are, Jon seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
  - b. As required under ORS 545.181(b), the board shall establish the time for the regular monthly board meetings of the board. Bob motioned that the board would keep the currently scheduled date and time for the regular monthly board meetings. Bob motioned to keep the board meetings scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 3:00 pm at the District offices. Walt seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
  - c. As required under ORS 545.181(c), the board shall establish, by resolution, the date of the next annual organizational meeting of the district. Bob motioned and Jon seconded his motion to schedule the next annual organizational meeting on January 9, 2024 at 3:00 pm. The vote was unanimous in favor.
  - d. As required under ORS 545.181(d), the board shall establish the date the board shall next meet as a board of equalization under ORS 545.418. Bob motioned and Jon seconded his motion that the board shall meet as a board of equalization on January 9, 2024 at 3:00 pm. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD COMMITTEES AND ITS MEMBERS: Steve introduced the various committees, and its members as follows:
  - a. Communications Committee – Bob Schuur and Jon Smith
  - b. Water Marketing Committee – Walt Warchol and Rob Rastovich
  - c. Finance Committee – Jon Smith and Wal Warchol
  - d. Strategic Planning Committee – Bob Schuur and Roger Fadness
4. THE ANNUAL MEETING ADJOURNED AND THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS CALLED TO ORDER: Bob called to adjourn the annual meeting and call the board of equalization meeting to order. There were no patrons present. Bob then called the monthly board meeting to order to run concurrently with the board of equalization. If patrons arrived to the meeting for the board of equalization, the monthly board meeting would be suspended to address patrons issues.
5. EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:45 am, Bob called to suspend the regular monthly meeting session and the board of equalization and called an executive session to order pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with your attorney regarding your legal rights and duties in regard to current litigation that is more likely than not to be filed.

At 10:26 AM, the executive session had adjourned and the regular monthly meeting and the board of equalization were called back to order.

6. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 2022 BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Jon motioned and Bob seconded his motion to approve the December meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.
7. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Bob motioned, and Jon seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.
8. MANAGER'S REPORT:
  - a. WATER REPORT: The drought report has not been updated since December 28<sup>th</sup> and won't be updated until tomorrow.

Crane Prairie releases are at 137 CFS and last year at this time they were at 90 CFS with storage 4,000 AF higher than last year at same time. Wickiup is several thousand AF ahead compared to last year.

- i. STOCK RUN: A stock run is scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup>. This is dependent on the Deschutes River flows. The flows have been low and the temperatures very low. There is ice and snow in the canal in DRW. If all is well with flows and temperature, a stock run will be attempted beginning January 17<sup>th</sup> which will run until Saturday morning. A rotation shouldn't be

necessary if we are able to run with 60 cfs. An email blast and text blast will go out on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> to all patrons.

b. MODERNIZATION PROJECTS:

i. MAIN CANAL PROJECT:

- PROJECT SCHEDULE: The schedule has not changed. On Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, the qualitative portion of the construction bids will be opened. On the 24<sup>th</sup>, the construction bids will be opened. Jon will call in for this meeting since he cannot attend in person.

Bob asked if a summary of the bids could be sent to the board members after the bids have been opened.

There is a question about where the pipe will be stored. There are locations in the District which may be available but that has not been decided and will be part of conversations with the winning pipe and construction companies.

- FUNDING UPDATE: The OWEB funds have to be spent by June of 2023. We have secured funding from OWEB through two separate grants, one with \$750,000 and the other with \$200,000.

The OWRD - DBBC lottery bond funding agreement in the amount of \$1.183 million was signed on the 5<sup>th</sup> which we have access to nearly immediately if needed.

There is a 3<sup>rd</sup> OWEB grant of left over money which the District applied for in the amount of roughly \$400,000. Our application was submitted on the 6<sup>th</sup> and in 30 days we should have an answer.

The CWSRF loan funds will be available if it is absolutely necessary to borrow them.

- LANDOWNER ON-SITE MEETINGS: Landowners who want new deliveries will be encouraged to ask for them while the pipe is going in as it will be more costly once the pipe is in the ground.

ii. DIVERSION GATE AUTOMATION AND WATER MEASUREMENT:

Reclamation has approved the District's grant request for automation of the radial gate and water measurement. They will not be disbursing funds until April at the earliest. Some work will be completed before the water is turned on in April and most can be done while the water is on.

c. ROATS WATER COMPANY: The District and Roats are close to agreeing on a final draft. The last revision is with Roats and it is hopeful that this is the final.

9. FIELD SUPERVISOR REPORT: Chris reported that everyone took time off at the end of the year. A new ditch rider was hired and he seems promising and is doing well.

A tree on the Sundance fell across the ditch which will have to be removed. The owner said they would pay for the removal. A new chain saw had to be purchased to accomplish this task.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> of three check walls on the Brandon has been poured.

The last safety meeting was regarding PPE (personal protective equipment).

Chris spent 3 days orientation with the new ditch rider based on OSHA requirements.

Chris is going over all OSHA requirements in the District to make sure we are up to code with their regulations.

10. FINANCIALS: Steve reported that we are in a good position for the end of the year. A negative \$42,000 was the original end of the year forecast. It was improved to \$266,000.

Steve has enquired with the auditor on how to handle the money received from Avion which was the assessments for the next 20 years as an exit fee. It needs to be booked somehow at 1/20<sup>th</sup> each year for the next 20 years.

There is \$222,000 in the LGIP Operations account with \$132,000 of which is the exit fee balance which cannot be touched. This is not counting any 2023 Assessment payments received.

11. OFFICE REPORT: Since assessments went out in December, we have received \$107,734.11. One more easement encroachment agreement and one remnant parcel documents have been prepared, signed, and recorded. Two patrons from the North Ladera have scheduled appointments to quitclaim their water back to the District. Three remaining but haven't called yet.

Ten patrons have called to schedule landowner piping meetings with Steve and Pape has already met with Steve with ongoing conversations.

- a. PAID LEAVE OREGON – EMPLOYEE COST: Since the District is a small employer the District does not have to pay the employee's cost. The employees pay their portion. It is .6% employee cost which amount to \$2,600 for a year. The employer can pay and do sometimes pay the employee's side on behalf of the employee. Paid Leave Oregon went into effect January 1<sup>st</sup> but since the program needs time to build,

no claims can be made until September. Walt motioned for AID to pick up the employee portion of the Paid Leave Oregon for 2023. Jon seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

12. OLD BUSINESS: Bob suggested that the board discuss various points of the Strategic Planning during the “Old Business” section of each meeting. The board agreed that would be a good idea.
13. NEW BUSINESS: There were no new items brought up for discussion.
14. OPEN FORUM: There were no items brought up for discussion by any one in attendance.
15. ADJOURNMENT: At 11:16 am, Bob called to adjourn the regular monthly meeting and the board of equalization.