

Arnold Irrigation District
Monthly Board Meeting

July 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Bob Schuur at 3:00 pm. Board members present were Bob Schuur, Walt Warchol, Jon Smith, and Rob Rastovich. Staff members present were Steve Johnson, Chris Webb, Brad Smyth, and Juanita Harvey. Also present was the District's attorney Mark Reinecke, District patrons Steve Keffer, Vern Bishop, Mark Elling, and Roger Fadness.

1. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2022 MEETING MINUTES: Jon motioned, and Walt seconded his motion to approve the minutes with a change noted by Bob Schuur in 3.c.i. The vote was unanimous in favor.
2. APPOINT ZONE 2 BOARD MEMBER: Bob shared that patron, Roger Fadness from Zone 2 has expressed an interest in being on the board. After he, Steve, and Jon had met with him to discuss the responsibilities of a board member and the various projects the District was involved in, Roger stated he was interested and would like to have this opportunity. Roger then briefly introduced himself. Jon then motioned and Walt seconded his motion to appoint Roger Fadness as Director of Zone 2 for the remainder of the year 2022.
3. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Jon asked if we could call John Deere Financing to see if we could change our excavator payment date so that the team isn't running around attempting to get check signatures for one check since it is due before our board meetings. Juanita will call and arrange for a due date change. Walt motioned and Jon seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.
4. MANAGER'S REPORT:
 - a. WATER REPORT/STORAGE:
 - i. STATE WATER MASTER REPORT:
 - ii. UPDATED SEASON FORECAST: Review of the reservoir storage levels and natural flow forecast projecting the shut-off date to be the 21st but will more than likely be the 23rd. Projections include the calculation of losses of 25% of the water on the way down to our diversion from Wickiup.

We have been using the Daily Flows calculator and the Natural Flow Calculator modeling tools to track the use and water requirements in between the monthly OWRD Watermaster reports.. The Natural Flow Calculator seems to be the methodology that gives more accurate data.

Jon inquired about our storage water coming out of Wickiup instead of Crane Prairie. Steve explained that Crane Prairie is where our storage physically accumulates and is measured. The HCP requires Crane Prairie to maintain the

water level storage target of 48,000 acre feet until July 15. An amendment to the 1938 Inter-District Agreement with COID, NUID, Lone Pine and Arnold provides for the use of Crane Prairie storage if needed before July 15 by allowing releases from Wickiup Reservoir with the Crane water after July 15 replenishing any draws from Wickiup by Lone Pine or Arnold.

Steve Keffer inquired about the need for running the water at some point after we shut off but before the end of the official irrigation season end of October. Bob Schuur shared that it is useful for people that want to plant and irrigate for fall crops. Chris Webb and Steve Johnson both stated that running the canal when possible has the benefit for cleaning the debris out of the canal, so it doesn't all come t once when we turn on.

- b. FINANCIALS AND CASH BALANCES: Steve is working with Local Ledgers on a monthly vs. annual budget format and developing another class that will track expenses and budget for the Main Canal piping project. Steve has been tracking the expenses and budget with Local Ledgers, FCA (Farmers Conservation Alliance, and the NRCS (National Resource Conservation Service).
- c. MODERNIZATION PROJECTS:
 - i. MAIN CANAL PROJECT:
 - The Watershed Plan - EA (Environmental Assessment) is near finalization for sending to NRCS in D.C.. We anticipate the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) being signed and issued with the submittal to D.C. for authorization to occur in early August. Authorization is expected in late September to early October. Construction funding from NRCS is released and available once the authorization is received.
 - Steve Johnson needs approval from the Board for him to sign the Watershed Plan Agreement once it is ready. This agreement is an agreement between AID, the DBBC (Deschutes Basin Board of Control), USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) NRCS. Jon motioned, and Rob seconded his motion to give Steve authorization to sign the Watershed Plan Agreement once it is ready. The vote was unanimous in favor.
 - The Main Canal project design is at a 90% design level. The CWSRF (Clean Water State Revolving Fund) has been approved pending post of the IUP (Intended Use Plan) on August 15th
 - Steve sent a letter to Tom Byler, Director of the OWRD (Oregon Water Resources Department) to accept a 2nd round of grant applications now that our WMCP (Water Management Conservation Plan) has been approved and OWRD still has funds available. If the request to Director Byler is not accepted or not recognized, we plan to submit a request to the E Board, as well as a supplemental OWEB funding program specifically for irrigation district water conservation projects

The first OWEB (Oregon Water Enhancement Board) application for \$200,000 if project funds has been reviewed and rated by the Review Committee. Specific approval and awarding funds is officially determined by the OWEB Commission in late August.

- ii. FINAL ARNOLD ID WATER MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION PLAN: The District's Water Management Conservation Plan has been approved by the OWRD and Final Ordered for 10 years.

- iii. DBBC 2021 AUDITED FINANCIALS: The DBBC (Deschutes Basin Board of Control) received its 2021 audited financials. This is required to get audits since it is the funding vessel for working with the

- NRCS. The NRCS writes funding checks to the DBBC and in turn writes checks for reimbursement and funding to AID and the fellow member districts

d. WATER MARKETING:

- i. ROATS WATER COMPANY: Roats jointly coordinate with Arnold the quasi-municipal water rights held by Roats and convert them to ground water credits. From the application submittal date to OWRD, the mitigation credits are expected in 9 to 12 months. The District will execute a Ground Water Patron Agreement with Roats that will require the continued payment of annual assessments as always but will not be required to physically deliver the water. There will be some water placed permanently instream and there may be additional mitigation credits available from the conversion and would have a market value that could be sold to the City of Bend, Avion or others. The conversion of the quasi-municipal surface water rights to groundwater mitigation credits will permanently remove those rights from the District water right certificate.

Steve will be working on the ground water patron agreement and Gen Hubert from the DRC (Deschutes Resources Conservancy) will be processing the joint application with Roats to OWRD

- ii. AVION: A letter was sent out today to the Arrowhead & Somerset subdivision customers from Avion. The PUC (Public Utilities Commission) has approved Avion using their supply for the Arrowhead and Somerset subdivision patrons as a pilot for the remainder of the season. If the pilot is successful, the next step would be to submit a ground water mitigation application similar to the Roats process..

There are six Arnold patrons who have deliveries next to the current Avion pond and in order to make the Arnold/Avion project work in the best manner for Avion and Arnold, Avion has agreed that they will deliver their irrigation water as well.

Avion holds Arnold water rights purchased over the years. They are interested in purchasing more water from Arnold if it is available.

- e. AUGUST 8, 2022, ALTERNATIVE CROP/DEFICIT IRRIGATION SEMINAR – OSU EXTENSION SERVICES – KLAMATH: The OSU (Oregon State University) Klamath Extension office will be visiting our area on August 8, 2022. At 2:00 pm there will be a field visit to a farm in the District who have planted triticale and other winter forage crops. . At 4:00 pm a meeting will be held at the AID office to hold a discussion about drought deficit irrigation management.

5. FIELD SUPERVISOR REPORT:

- a. MAINTENANCE PROJECTS: Chris reported on some of the projects completed in the last month. The projects consisted of tree removal from the canal, working with patrons on Tekampe Rd to ensure a safe passage for the ditch riders across a newly paved area adding an apron to the area.

This month's safety meeting covered Emergency and Disaster Preparedness.

The Sheriff's Department Inmate Crew cleaned out the dirt from around the footings of the flume and trimmed and cleared brush to reduce the fire risk

Steve Keffer asked about needles and debris in the canal and was asking how we take care of the debris before it gets into the pipe. Chris explained that the main canal project intends to have a motorized autonomous traveling screen installed at the pipe inlet will remotely remove the debris and place it on the bank for removal at a later date.

Walt asked about status on grant funding for the automated river diversion gate. Steve responded that we should hear something from the Bureau of Reclamation know by the end of summer.

- b. AID EASEMENT ENCROACHMENT NOTICE: Steve and Chris have put together an easement encroachment notice which Chris and the ditchriders will have to give notice to people who have encroachment into our easement without consent from the district. Once notice has been given to the property owner, they must contact the District and complete an easement encroachment agreement, and pay the fees to have the agreement recorded.

6. OFFICE REPORT:

- a. ASSESSMENTS RECEIVED: The number of patrons delinquent has gone down from thirteen patrons to seven for a total of \$4,524.56. Out of the seven, one owes for 2021 assessment in the amount of \$863.13.

Two more patrons have completed the remnant parcel process.

- b. OTHER: Now that we are working with Roats and Avion to convert surface water rights to ground water rights, it is important to get the water transfers and the OWRD certificate audit complete so that all the water rights are in order before the transfer of any water rights.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. REMNANT PARCELS – NORTH LATERAL: Steve explained the process going forward with all the patrons who haven't contacted the District to complete the process. They will receive another letter shortly that will inform them that this process needs to be completed before the assessments go out in November. If they do not complete the process before the 2023 assessments are processed, we will file liens for the 2022 assessment, no longer refund the 2022 assessment if paid, and will receive a 2023 assessment which they will be responsible for and the 4 year clock for non-use forfeiture will begin.
- b. LUNDY LATERAL: The patrons from the Lundy lateral received a feasibility study grant to pipe the Lundy lateral. They haven't received a minimal amount of water this season due to their private ditch's high seepage loss. Steve feels that the District could assist with labor and equipment as in-kind but we should not take the lead on the project but can be facilitators. Steve suggested that we would continue to coordinate with the DRC (Deschutes River Conservancy) and Deschutes Soil & Water Conservation District for funding.
- c. AMENDED GROUND WATER PATRON POLICY: Pending legal counsel's approval of the amended changes to Resolution #2022-01 which was originally approved on March 8, 2022, Jon motioned, and Walt seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. DBBC LAVA ISLAND – GEO TECH SURVEY: A necessary Lava Island geo tech survey will be conducted by the DBBC, Trout Unlimited, ODF&W (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) among others. AID pledged up to \$750 for this effort..

- 9. OPEN FORUM: Steve Keffer asked us to update the webpage if the shut off date was other than the pre-determined 23rd of July.

- 10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.

ARNOLD IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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