

Arnold Irrigation District
Monthly Board Meeting

May 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm by Bob Schuur. Board members present were Bob Schuur, Jon Smith, Roger Fadness, and Rob Rastovich. Staff members present were Colin Wills, Chris Webb, and Juanita Harvey. Steve Johnson was present via zoom. The District's attorney Mark Reinecke was present as well as District patrons Mike Penhollow and Matt Steele. Robert Gibbons and Chad Swindel on behalf of TNW, the piping project contractors, and Kevin Crew, Engineer, Black Rock Consulting & David Prull, Engineer,

1. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Bob motioned, and Rob seconded his motion to approve the April board meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.
2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Bob motioned, and Roger seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. MANAGER'S REPORT:

- a. WATER REPORT: Conditions are a little better and higher than last year.

The OWRD has a new water reporting platform for the Deschutes Basin. It is more real time and is available every 2 weeks.

We could possibly last into September. This is not a promise, and we really cannot tell until we start taking water out of storage.

- b. FINANCIAL REPORT: We have \$660,000 in the Modernization Fund with an additional \$141,110.64 from a project reimbursement going back into the fund to reimburse the District after we used our funds to pay TNW.

We are looking into purchasing solar off-grid high-def cameras for the screens. This will be paid for out of the modernization fund.

We are waiting on 4 project submittals for reimbursement and there are 2 more submittals for Phase 3 and 4 waiting to be sent in.

- c. MODERNIZATION PROJECT UPDATE: We are working on mitigating start up and problems in the future in reference to the pip. It is a possibility that we could set up a system that will use jetting or air to clear out the valves and deliveries.

Jon thought we should consider high quality compressors. Possibly even used ones from rental companies and a trash pump.

d. WATER MARKETING REPORT: In order to accommodate Steve's schedule, Bob moved this item up as the 2nd item on the agenda.

i. AVION WATER LLC – SOMERSET & ARROWHEAD + 6: There was a concern about the payment. On Page 3, #8. if Avion does not pay, the mitigation credits are assigned to AID for as long as the agreement is in place. The amount of mitigation credits assigned are those associated with AID water. AID stays on the application until the final order. Then AID issues an assignment document. We will be protected, and we will be paid.

Rob motioned to approve the signature of the agreement as presented. Jon seconded his motion. There were 4 votes in favor by Bob, Jon, Roger, and Rob. Walt voted against it.

A letter prepared by Garrett of BLJ and Steve Johnson will go out to the Arrowhead & Somerset +6 patrons requesting that they sign their affidavits of consent by June 30, 2024, with everything being finalized by July 15th. If patrons do not sign, they are endangering their water right for non-use and the water right will be returned to the District.

A meeting will be set up for May 29, 2024, at Rob Rastovich's farm. Garrett from BLJ, Steve Johnson, and Rob Rastovich will be in attendance to discuss the process further. Juanita Harvey will be present to notarize documents for anyone who would like to sign their documents at the meeting. The meeting date was later changed to June 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

ii. GW MITIGATION PROPOSAL CITY OF BEND: Last month, a draft agreement was prepared for the GW Mitigation Proposal for the City of Bend. Walt wanted to wait another month to decide how we would use the money we received from this transaction.

If we decided to back away from this agreement, the 2024 budget would have to be re-worked because this money was already figured into the budget.

Jon motioned to proceed with the sale of the water to the City of Bend. Roger seconded his motion. There were 3 votes in favor by Bob, Jon, and Roger. Walt voted against it and Rob abstained.

Steve will send the agreement to the City of Bend.

4. OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT: There have been lots of fluctuations and no one can seem to lock down the problems with the butterfly valve.

A portion of the Billadeau/Ropp has been lined in hopes that it improves the flow for all the patrons on that lateral.

In the future, we are hoping to get a Bureau grant to continue on with the flume liner. Modernization funds would be used, and the rest could be done with grant funds. Chris will order 1,000 feet of liner which will cost \$17,300.00.

Rob inquired about insuring the flume until we could replace the flume. Colin will look into getting a risk assessment done on the flume.

Yesterday, Jaiden's replacement was hired at \$28/hour.

5. OFFICE REPORT:

- a. ASSESSMENTS: Normally, patrons are shut off for non-payment on May 15th. Since it has been a difficult season start up, Colin felt it was best to hold the shut-offs until June 15th. Juanita will send out notices with the past due statements.
- b. EASEMENT ENCROACHMENTS/EASEMENT RELEASES/REMNANT PARCELS: There have not been any further requests for any of these items.

Season start up has been difficult and Juanita has not done much other than answer calls regarding all of the problems.

6. OLD BUSINESS: There were no old items of business which needed to be discussed.
7. NEW BUSINESS: There were no new items of business brought up for discussion.
8. OPEN FORUM: In order to accommodate those who were present to discuss the piping project alone, Bob asked that we move the open forum discussion to the top of the agenda. Introductions were made, and a discussion began regarding the problems that occurred since the start up of irrigation season and the problems that are still occurring.

Matt Steele hoped that there were lessons learned from this process and hoped that in the next phase, testing would begin April 1st rather than at the irrigation start-up date. Matt asked Kevin about the butterfly valve and why a slide gate was not engineered into the plans instead of a butterfly valve. Kevin answered that no one was expecting the amount of needles that came down the ditch at start up.

Colin stated that upon completion of Phase 2, the finished product should be complete in the middle of March with mini stock runs following to clean out the canal of all the needles and then hire the inmate crew to do the canal clean out which is very important before starting up.

Robert Gibbons felt that a series of trash racks would work well in the open canal system.

Rob felt that the District staff and board were left out in the cold without assistance as the District struggled with startup. He felt it was important that all staff, contractors, and engineers be on board until everything is up and working.

Chris stated that TNW did a lot that we as a District just could not do. They came to our aid in the end when we needed their assistance.

At 3:57 pm, Matt Steele, Kevin Crew, David Prull, Robert Gibbons, and Chad Swindell left the meeting.

Colin stated that we would like to get the project limit stakes put in so that we can start sending letters out to the landowners along the stretch of Phase 2.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The board will suspend the regular session and call to order an Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with our attorney regarding our legal rights and duties in regard to current litigation or litigation that is more likely than not to be filed.

An executive session was not required.

10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.