

June 11, 2021  
Arnold Irrigation District  
Special Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Bren Hirschberg at 3:00 pm. Board members present were Bren Hirschberg, Walt Warchol, Jon Smith, Bob Schuur, and Rob Rastovich. Office staff members present were Colin Wills, Matt Maurer, and Juanita Harvey. Also, present was Jeremy Giffin, the local Oregon Water Resources Department Watermaster. Present via the conference phone were patrons Gary Bishop, Don & Joanne Jacobs, and Randy Fenimore.

Bren opened the meeting by welcoming Jeremy. Jeremy stated that by far this is the worst year with three major reservoirs which will most likely go dry. There has been no run-off, and this is unprecedented.

Bren then asked Colin to explain the results of the survey.

Out of 645 patrons, 75% chose a 7-day rotation at 4.5 gpm and 24.6% chose running at 5.5 gpm 24/7 until the water is gone.

Colin was asked when he thinks we will run out of water. He uses an estimator which tracks daily water readings on a 4-day average. Colin also gets numbers from COID for the spill and Lone Pine. The estimator shows how much water we are using per day to as close as one day from the actual date. Jeremy will also be supplying the storage report every two weeks.

Bren asked Colin about the storage that was available, and the dates associated with the availability. Per Colin as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, we were taking all our water from storage. There was 6,198 AF storage and we gained 1,250 AF for a total of 7,448. With this amount of water in storage we should be able to run until approximately July 22<sup>nd</sup>. We would run two weeks of rotation for each side and then turn everyone on at 5.5 gpm on July 11<sup>th</sup> until the water runs out.

Bren asked the question what is the possible savings of delivering water to our patrons at 4.5 gpm?

Colin stated that farmers who had seed crops such as hay will want to be on full until we run out so that their first cutting will be a high yield. Farmers with animals, cattle will most likely want a rotation so that they have a water supply for their animals for a longer period of time.

Joanne Jacobs asked if the Oregon Spotted Frog (OSF) wasn't an issue right now, would we still run out of water? Colin responded that if we had 13,500 AF of storage we would most likely still run out probably around the beginning of September.

Jeremy also stated that if the OSF wasn't an issue we would be in a better water situation.

Colin stated that on September 15<sup>th</sup> when we typically begin to receive our water from natural river flows, we still may not be able to take water. If North Unit is off, Arnold is next in line to regulate Deschutes Below Bend (DEBO) for the fish.

If the board decides to go on a rotation, each side of the rotation would receive 2 weeks of water and then everyone would be turned back on until we run out.

Bob motion to adopt the rotation schedule to begin the 14<sup>th</sup> of June as 7 days on and 7 days off at 4.5 gpm with the final amount of water remaining delivered at 5.5 gpm 24/7 to everyone until water is depleted. Jon seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Randy Fenimore asked if we turn off around the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July and we are off for the month of August, will the district be able to turn back on possibly on September 15<sup>th</sup> as was done last year? Colin responded that North Unit is the district that regulates Deschutes Below (DEBO) but if they have to turn off then Arnold would be next in line to regulate it. We won't know if we will be able to run water until the 15<sup>th</sup> of September.

Rob asked who was turning off. Colin responded that North Unit will most likely have to shut off sometime in August which would then leave the regulation of DEBO up to Arnold.

At 3:37 pm all discussions were concluded, and Bob motioned to adjourn, John seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ARNOLD IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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