

Arnold Irrigation District  
Monthly Board Meeting

July 9, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Jon Smith. Board members present were Jon Smith, Roger Fadness, Rob Rastovich, and Walt Warchol via Zoom. Staff members present were Colin Wills, Chris Webb, and Juanita Harvey. Also present were the District's attorney, Mark Reinecke, Jeremy Giffin, Regional Water Master, and Peter Schrey, and Brian Young, patrons representing the Billadeau/Ropp lateral.

1. Jon asked Jeremy Giffin to speak first on the season to date and what the outlook was going to be for the remainder of the season. Jeremy stated that this year has been the best snowpack and precipitation since 2017. He has been preparing 2 water storage reports per month to help everyone with their calculations for water usage and forecasting.

From June 6<sup>th</sup> through 14, there was 1,254 AF of natural flow but then from the 15<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup>, the natural flow dropped dramatically. Arnold is probably dipping into storage a small amount but not enough to be of concern. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, Arnold had not used any stored water. The next storage report will come out on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Jeremy left the meeting at 3:38 pm.

2. Jon then asked the Billadeau/Ropp lateral folks to speak. Peter Schrey and Brian Young asked about the water being delivered at their delivery. They stated that someone on the ditch has been removing weirs. They were advised to form a Water Control District. They would need to contact an attorney to start this process.

They felt it might be helpful for the District to write a letter to the Billadeau/Ropp patrons to inform them of the problems that have been reported to the District and that it would be best for the patrons on the lateral to all work together to form a WCD (Water Control District). Peter Schrey and Brian Young felt that the patrons might be more acceptable of starting a WCD if the suggestion came from the District.

Brian and Peter left the meeting at 4:07 pm.

3. APPROVAL OF JUNE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Rob motioned, and Roger seconded his motion to approve the June board meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.
4. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Rob motioned, and Roger seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT:

a. MODERNIZATION PROJECT UPDATE:

The staking is close to completion. Several meetings are scheduled for Phase 2 of the project. There are meetings for power drops for the inlet at the screens on the 10<sup>th</sup>. A meeting will also be held with the Ward's regarding possible realignment and pipe staging. Ryan from AKS Engineering and Garrett from BLJ will also be in attendance.

Utility conflicts need to be addressed as soon as possible for Phases 3 and 4. Kevin Crew (Black Rock Consulting) will contact Parametrix regarding the utility conflicts.

Colin has completed 6 grant submittals.

Thursday, the crew is to begin painting trees in Phase 2 within the project limits.

b. FLUME: Colin reported that he could not get a risk analysis on the flume.

Jon stated we should take the cost of the flume per foot or average foot to replace, then figure out how much is at risk and how much to insure or mitigate.

He asked how Wild and Scenic land purchases fire protection.

c. WATER MARKETING REPORT:

- i. AVION WATER LLC – SOMERSET & ARROWHEAD + 6: There was the matter of the additional amount the patrons were being charged by Avion for the delivery of pressurized water. Also, the tariff and the agreement both stated that Avion-AID patron assessments would go up as AID's did until such a time as Avion exited all the water rights out of the District. The Avion-AID patrons were told that the assessment amount would not increase.

Rob stated that since that is what the patrons were told, the agreement needed to be changed to have the patron assessments stay at the amount they currently are.

Jon also had a concern about their assessments being raised since AID was no longer involved with those water rights other than them being on our certificate until such time as Avion exits the water rights.

They asked that this be tables until the following month.

- ii. GW MITIGATION PROPOSAL CITY OF BEND: Walt voiced his concerns about the sale of water rights to the City of Bend and to Avion. Walt had concerns about selling water rights to meet budgetary needs. We have money in the Modernization fund. There are many items with the project (especially overtime for the staff) and other items for the project that could have come out of the modernization fund. He feels we still need to transfer that money into our operation budget that was used to pay for anything project related.

Walt motioned to stop the sale of the 50 acres of water rights to the City of Bend and the extra 50 acres of water to Avion.

Walt then modified his motion to two separate motions. The first was to table the sale of 50 acres of water rights to Avion. Rob seconded his motion as modified. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The second part of Walt's motion was to rescind the proposal to City of Bend which was approved by the board last month. Roger seconded his motion. Jon voted against, and Rob abstained because he had a conflict of interest.

The board asked Colin take all expenses related to Phase 1 and put them back into the budget to make up for the \$160,000 budget shortfall for the City of Bend transaction.

6. OPERATION MANAGER'S REPORT: The AID staff and other District staff were part of a confined space training here at AID. The training was given by SDAO. The District needs about \$3,000 in equipment in order for our District to be able to conduct confined space on our own. What is needed is a tripod, and a truck. It was discussed that when we purchased a new ditchrider truck, we could take the older pick up and convert it into a flat bed which would be set up for blowouts at the valves and for confined space equipment.

A new set of screens will be installed at the beginning of the inlet of Phase 2. By the end of Phase 2, there will be more pressure, so we can make the gate valves smaller. Part of "lessons learned." The screens will be paid for with the grant. Right now, the problem is that the screen is constantly covered with algae.

7. OFFICE REPORT: There is currently \$15,834.05 owing from 10 patrons. The phones continue to be busy with flush requests but it has quietened down some.
8. OLD BUSINESS: Colin has called three different property management companies to manage the District rental. There was one company on board but then they backed out. The lease agreement has been revised and has been mailed out. The tenant, if she agrees will begin her new lease term on August 1, 2024.

9. NEW BUSINESS: There were no new items of business brought up for discussion.
10. EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 5:20 pm, the board suspended the regular session and called 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.
11. ADJOURNMENT: At 5:31 pm, the regular session was called back to order and the meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.