

Arnold Irrigation District
Monthly Board Meeting
July 14th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm by Jon Smith. Board members present were Jon Smith, Walt Warchol, Roger Fadness and Rob Rastovich (via zoom). Staff members present were Chris Webb, Ashley Buckner, Cole Nashem, and Juanita Harvey . Also present was the District's attorney Garrett Chrostek and Jennifer Sandhu. Also via zoom was Michael Miller.

1. APPROVAL OF JUNE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Walt motioned, and Roger seconded his motion to approve the June board meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor with Jon and Rob voting in favor.

2. MANAGER REPORT:

a. Financial Report: Admin expenses were 44.77%, Canal Systems maintenance were 64.88%, Employee expenses were at 49.44% and Operating expenses were at 43.2%. Discrepancies were also found and will be updated with our accountant. Modernization fund has \$325,348.85, Operations at \$282,843.61, and Reserves at \$65,145.60.

b. June Storage Report: According to the US Drought Monitor (USDM), as of July 7th, 88% of Oregon is in some form of drought. 57% of the state is in severe (D2) to extreme drought (D3), with D3 accounting for 20% of the state. Over the past two weeks, D2 and D3 have expanded in parts of central, northeastern, and southwestern Oregon.

Current drought conditions are being driven by above-normal temperatures, increased rates of evapotranspiration, persistent short-and long-term precipitation deficits, and below-normal streamflow conditions across much of the state.

To date, 21 Oregon counties have received state drought declarations under ORS 536.

Natural flow is up due to Wickiup dropping, when Wickiup drops, it releases the pressure off the natural springs. Swalley was below their live flow right and stayed

out of using storage while Lone Pine had to use 655 AF of storage and COID use 396 AF of storage, both because they exceeded their live flow right. Arnold is completely out of storage, but they may turn back on after the September 15th rate change with live flow.

Bureau of Reclamation showed Craine Prairie reservoir at 87% full, Wickiup at 39% full, Crescent lake at 21%, Haystack at 74%, Ochoco at 37%, and Prineville at 45% full.

3. OPERATIONS REPORT:

1. During the last month of operations, ditch riders worked hard to ensure all deliveries were running smoothly. We drove all canals and contacted patrons if weir boxes were flooded back, as well as helping them test their pumps and perform minor fixes so that they could fill their ponds before we shut off for the season.

2. Unfortunately, we received a call on June 16th regarding a deceased deer on the main canal. Thankfully, we were able to have it removed by the end of the day.

3. The District shut off at 5am on July 2nd running at 55.6 cfs (cubic feet per second) with a delivery rate of 5.5 gpm (gallons per minute). After turning off, we performed all necessary shut down procedures, inspections, and maintenance in the final hours of operations.

4. Once we were shut off, we started preparing for off-season projects. We contacted the Sheriff's Office inmate crew for assistance on our Wildfire Mitigation Plan. We were able to remove a large amount of potentially flammable debris from our intake structure, as well as from underneath the flume. We have the DCSO crew scheduled for July 21st and 22nd to complete the remaining flume portion of our mitigation plan.

5. Additionally, we drove down to Klamath Irrigation District to borrow their welder to complete our flume liner installation.

Cole also created a Wildfire Action Plan and a list of Fall and Winter projects to complete later this year. Jon also mentioned that there has been discussion over the years about insuring the flume. AID will look into the cost of insurance and report back to the Board.

4. OFFICE REPORT: For June's safety meeting Ashley updated AID's Heat Illness Prevention Plan. It had not been updated since 2022. Ashley and the ditch riders went over the new packet that discussed what to do once heat symptoms occurred, AQI and proper OSHA breaks.

Ashley sent out notices to all patrons with delinquent balances stating that a \$150 Admin/Late fee was added to their account. We have four accounts in arrears.

Ashely created a Canal Safety awareness page that we would like to put on AID's website that addresses the safety of canals for children and adults. Garrett will look it over for any changes that need to be made prior to posting it.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Status of Lava Flow Property: The lot line adjustment and the sale of a portion of the Lava Flow Property has been recorded in the county and is officially complete.

b. New Database: Rob Rastovich has created a proposal for a new database for AID, Since Rob is a board member this creates a conflict of interest. Therefore the District will reach out to three other companies for new database quotes.

c. Team Building Discussion: An invoice will be sent to all board members and staff attending the River Boat excursion as the District will not be covering the cost. All hotel rooms will need to be paid individually as well.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

a. North Lateral TDS Utility Crossing: TDS had reached out about a powerline crossing the easement. The District's standard fee for a utility crossing is \$10,000.00. After a discussion with the board, it was agreed that the District will instead charge \$5,000.00 for this utility crossing

b. Remote working: Candice zoomed in to let the board know having a remote worker in another state will be easy to do. She will set-up taxes according to that state and payroll would be no different. The District created a proposal for a telecommuting policy to add to our handbook for remote workers. Walt motioned,

and Roger seconded his motion to approve the Telecommuting Policy. The vote was unanimous in favor with Jon and Rob voting in favor.

7. OPEN FORUM: There was no open forum at this time.

8. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Walt motioned, and Roger seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor with Jon and Rob voting in favor.

9: EXECUTIVE SESSION: An executive session was not required at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:39pm