

Arnold Irrigation District  
Monthly Board Meeting

December 12, 2023

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

1. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Roger motioned, and Bob seconded his motion to approve the November board meeting minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.
2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Walt motioned, and Roger seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. MANAGER'S REPORT:
  - a. WATER REPORT:
    - i. DROUGHT & WATER SUPPLY & USBR TEACUP DIAGRAM: The water equivalent is slightly over average and stream flows are at 78% of average with temperatures above normal.  
  
Wickiup is at 75,000 AF.
  - b. FINANCIAL REPORT:
    - i. MONTHLY FINANCIALS: There aren't any new expenditures to report. Everything is as predicted. Though we are saving money on fuel as fuel prices have come down some.
    - ii. FYE FINANCIAL FORECAST: Cash flow through the end of December 2023 should be approximately \$67,000.

The District regains cash when we receive reimbursement for Chris and Steve's time working on the project.

Cash balances show there will be \$0.00 in checking, \$0.00 in the LGIP operating account, \$19,000 in the LGIP reserve account with enough money in checking for January payroll. All invoices through December until the January meeting will also be covered.

c. MODERNIZATION PROJECTS:

- i. MAIN CANAL PROJECT: The project is going well with 2000 feet of pipe going in the ground each week to the east and the west. They are almost to the Estes delivery in the easterly direction and should be complete to the end of the eastern section by mid-January.

The District staff are doing the connections between the stub-outs and the patron pipe. Chris and Jaiden started these this week. There are 46 to 47 deliveries where we have to make the connections. It will take approximately 5 to 8 weeks depending on the alignment of the pipes.

- ii. DIVERSION GATE AUTOMATION AND WATER MEASUREMENT: The diversion gate is ready. This week preliminary limits will be set on the gate with OS Engineering and fine-tuned when water starts.
- iii. ESTES PIPE: The Estes lateral pipe is complete. The billing will go out to the Estes patrons with 1/3 of the cost added to each of their assessments. 1/3 will be added to their assessment as well for 2025 and 2026.

Steve Keffer thanked the District employees for their hard work.

d. WATER MARKETING REPORT:

- i. AVION WATER LLC – SOMERSET & ARROWHEAD + 6: Avion is working through the agreement with Garrett at BLJ. Hopefully an agreement will be signed in January.
- ii. GW MITIGATION PROPOSAL TO AVION AND CITY OF BEND: Avion has answered that they are interested in 50 acres of water rights for mitigation. The City of Bend is also interested in 50 acres of water rights for mitigation and they have replied to the initial proposal. The goal is to have an application in by the end of March with a completion date by the end of 2024.

4. FIELD SUPERVISOR REPORT: Chris reported that the Estes project is complete and went well.

The team will be working on main canal delivery connections as TNW installs the turnouts. The team needs to be at the turnouts to make sure the connections will work. All the parts for this part of the project should be delivered next week.

The rain gutters at the office were cleaned and sealed, the yard cleaned, bushes trimmed. We are doing our own yard clean up saving the District about \$1,000 a month in yard maintenance costs.

When time is available from the main canal project work, the team is doing canal inspections.

The last safety meeting was on confined space.

5. OFFICE REPORT: Juanita reported that transfers are still her top priority. Four accounts are still delinquent. Mark has sent letters to the 4 patrons giving them notice that a lien will be filed and that they have 30 additional days before filing.

The 2024 assessments have been processed and all sent out except the Estes patrons whose assessments have to be adjusted to include the 1/3 piping cost.

6. OLD BUSINESS: There were no old items of business to be brought up for discussion.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. REPLACE FRONT END LOADER: Chris reported that "Sourcewell" is a business that can get public entities big discounts on large equipment purchases if you sign up with them and use them in the purchase process. Chris did sign our District up with them and this would allow us to purchase a front-end loader for \$15,000 less than the asking price.

The Kubota dealership came to the office and looked the loader over and offered us \$5,000. A new loader would cost \$46,000 to \$47,000 brand new.

Our loader is a '96 and anything over 20 years old will no longer have parts available for it to repair because of its age.

There are used ones available to purchase on the market which are not new. On auction sites they are priced at \$11,000 to \$12,000 which are the same as ours but again they are still old and the same argument is that there will be no parts available for repair in the future because of their age.

Chris asked for approval to trade in our loader and if so, then he would check on financing. The board agreed that Chris should look into the financing and get back with the board at the next meeting.

8. OPEN FORUM: Steve Keffer, again thanked the District for work on the Estes pipe and a job well done. He stated that Gary English also complimented the District for their work through his property.

At 4:15 pm, Steve Keffer, and Jaiden Giffin left the meeting.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 4:15 pm, Bob called to suspend the regular session and call an executive session to order pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) to consider employment of a public officer, employee staff member or individual agent.
  
10. ADJOURNMENT: At 5:30 pm, the regular meeting session was called back to order. Walt then motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Bob seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.