

March 9, 2021
Arnold Irrigation District
Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting via Zoom was called to order by Bren Hirschberg at 3:10 pm. Board members present were Bren Hirschberg, Walt Warchol, Bob Schuur, and Rob Rastovich. Office staff members were Colin Wills, Matt Maurer, and Juanita Harvey. Also present was the District's attorney Mark Reinecke.

1. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Bob motioned, and Walt seconded his motion to approve the minutes with the changes from Bren. Colin to give changes to the water report which will be updated in the minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.
2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Walt motioned, and Bob seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. REPORTS:
 - a. MANAGER'S REPORT:
 - i. WATER REPORT: Based on the NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) report, Cascade Summit has a snow water equivalent of 104% of average, Irish Taylor is at 103% of average and Summit Lake is at 97% of average. The average for these being 101.3%. The precipitation accumulation average is 94%. These numbers are rather good considering it has been so warm. What is needed is a cold spring for slow melt off and more snow.

There is currently 5000 AF of storage in Crane Prairie for AID in the 2021 irrigation season.

FINANCIALS: Assessments are coming in but still a little slow. By the end of the month, we should be able to transfer all the piping fund money from operations into the Piping LGIP (Local Government Investment Pool) account since assessments should all be in before the April board meeting.

DBBC (Deschutes Basin Board of Control) Meeting: The meeting was held to discuss the implementation manual which was created for the HCP (Habitat Conservation Plan). It discusses what Districts will be assigned which various duties. AID's requirements are measures UD-1 and DR-1 under the conservation measures for the HCP.

PIPING PROJECT: Colin is working with the FCA (Farmer's Conservation Alliance) on the FY2019 funding requesting more money since costs have gone up. NRCS should be able to engineer our project 100% so there will be no money out of pocket for the district. The money saved here can be used for other items such as administration and legal fees.

Construction should begin the winter of 2022 – 2023. We need to find our portion of the funding (25%) which we should be able to find through OWEB (Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board) and OWRD (Oregon Water Resources Department). All phases of the project will be 100% funded for the 75%.

MITIGATION CREDITS: Colin and Juanita had a meeting with Sarah Henderson from the OWRD to discuss creative ways the District would use mitigation credits. Sarah is further researching the possible use of credits for Arnold.

- b. **FIELD SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** The February stock run went well. We are using far less water than in the past for stock runs.

The second check wall is complete and the third is under construction and will be complete before the March stock run.

Two individual deliveries were installed for new patrons.

The siphon alarm upgrade has gone well but the alarms for the siphons needed higher end invertors.

Damaged or old flume sections will be replaced before the start of the season.

- c. **OFFICE REPORT:** To date we have collected \$273,666.76 in assessments which is 30% of our total assessments. Juanita is working on leases, transfers, and temporary transfers along with the certificate audit.

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **FLUME INSURANCE:** Colin had discussions with our insurance representative regarding flume insurance. To re-build the flume would cost about \$9,000,000. If an incident occurred and the flume was a total loss, the flume would not be rebuilt; it would be piped. It would be guaranteed to full replacement with no deductible. Our General Liability would be upgraded to include the flume.

A discussion followed with Mark Reinecke regarding liability with patrons for loss of water.

Also, what funds would we use in this situation? Colin suggested the 8024 category Canal Systems Expenses for the Piping Project. Colin to research further.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. ZONE 3 REPRESENTATIVE: Bren felt it was important to raise awareness among our patrons of the board member responsibilities and that the district's Zone 3 board position remains vacant. Juanita will send out another letter to all the patrons of Zone 3 notifying them that the Board is still in search of a board member for that zone. Hopefully, there will be some interest.
 - b. BOARD TALKING POINTS: From the February meeting the board was looking to Colin for talking points so that they would be better prepared when speaking to patrons or the public who may have questions. Topics that are of interest are usually piping, the HCP, public issues such as piping alternatives, cost, loss of value of property and what would happen if we did not pipe.
6. OPEN FORUM: Mark gave the board an update on the ongoing Tumalo Irrigation District litigation.
7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 4:49 pm.

ARNOLD IRRIGATION DISTRICT
