

October 13, 2020

Arnold Irrigation District  
Monthly Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Bren Hirschberg at 3:00 pm. Board members present were Bren Hirschberg, Bob Schuur, Walt Warchol and Rob Rastovich. Office staff members present were Colin Wills, Matt Maurer and Juanita Harvey. Also present was Steve Keffer, patron. Mark Reinecke, the District's attorney called in later via the conference phone.

1. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES: With the exception of one correction in the 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence of the "Water Report", changing "Colin call Kyle" to "Colin called Kyle, Bob motioned and Rob seconded his motion to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.
2. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Later in the meeting, Walt motioned, and Rob seconded his motion to approve the accounts payable. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. REPORTS:

A. MANAGER'S REPORT:

i. WATER REPORT:

AID is losing water because North Unit is shutting down. The water is extremely low with our headgate all the way out of the water for two weeks now. Since COID shut off, North Unit took some of that water. This caused Benham to drop leaving no head pressure for AID. This is difficult to explain and to understand. We are hoping to have enough water to make it until Friday, October 16, 2020 which was the projected shut-off date for the season.

Steve Keffer thanked Colin for insisting the District not go on a rotation again at the end of the season.

Bren also thanked Colin and the staff for their efforts through this year's difficult season.

Matt found an error on the water report on the October 6<sup>th</sup> date. He will make the correction to the report.

Colin has a link for a presentation being given by NOAA regarding scientist's predictions. Colin wills send this link to the board.

We are hoping to have the dates for this winter's stock runs up on the web page by the end of the month.

ii. FINANCIALS:

There was a mistake made on one of the LGIP transfers. Local Ledgers corrected it today by transferring the amount to the correct account.

B. FIELD SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Matt reported that a few sink holes were located near the Pape property which is not unusual in that area. That area was shot-creted before water was turned back on at the end of the season.

4. FARMER'S CONSERVATION ALLIANCE (FCA) FUNDING MEETING VIA ZOOM: At 3:40 pm FCA joined the meeting via zoom. Present from FCA were Kate Hart and Margie Hoffman.

Comments from AID's Watershed Plan were received from the National Watershed Management. The National Economic Analysis (NEA) benefit cost ratio did not come in as hoped. Phases 4, 5 and the earthen section of Phase 6 did not have a benefit cost ratio greater than 1. Therefore, Phases 1, 2, 3 and the flume fall have a benefit cost ratio greater than one and will be covered under the funding. The other phases will be funded with other sources which are available.

Rob and Bob asked if they could review the analysis. FCA will send the analysis and the spreadsheet for the board to review. Would like comments back from the board 2 weeks from October 26<sup>th</sup>.

The board asked if AID was competing for funds at this time. Margie stated most of the federal share is already in place. She strongly recommended that the District move ahead with sections of the canal that we have funding for.

Matt is working on completing the maintenance list and budget for this winter.

Matt completed a drone test flight last week and will be doing a flight with Todd Peplin who works for the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District this week.

At this time, Steve Keffer left the board meeting.

5. OFFICE REPORT: Juanita reported that notices were sent out at the beginning of October to all patrons who were delinquent with payments of their 2019 or 2020 assessments. Juanita reported that any accounts with outstanding balances for 2020 were turned over to BLJ to process liens and any accounts with delinquent 2019 balances were turned over to BLJ to foreclose on any 2019 unpaid liens. To continue with the process, a motion was required from the board. Bob motioned and Walt seconded his motion to foreclose on all unpaid liens from 2019. The vote was unanimous in favor.

One of the patrons with a delinquent 2019 balance paid the balance of their assessment but wrote a note saying they could not afford the late/administrative fee of \$150.00 because of the COVID pandemic, he and his wife were only working part-time. The board agreed to waive that patrons late/administrative fee.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. SENATOR KNOPP'S VISIT AT THE NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING: Rob noted that he requested Senator Knopp visit with the board at the November board meeting to discuss changes in legislation regarding irrigation districts.

Some of the things Rob felt were important to touch on during his visit was the need to change legislation for water law, districts being penalized for water efficiency and the ability to market the district's water.

Mark Reinecke, the District's attorney called in via conference phone at 5:00 pm.

Mark briefly discussed the statutory laws regarding board appointments and nominations. If a change were to be made in the law SDAO or OWRC would have to lobby for those changes.

Mark will prepare a document for the board regarding board director appointments.

- B. EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 5:16 pm, Bren called to suspend the regular meeting and call an executive session to order pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(f) to consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from our attorney and (h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal right and duties of a public body regarding litigation likely to be filed.

At 5:55 pm, Bren called the regular meeting back to order.

- 7. OLD BUSINESS: There were no items brought up for discussion.
- 8. OPEN FORUM: There were no items brought up for discussion.
- 9. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.

ARNOLD IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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