

MANAGER'S REPORT - FEBRUARY 2020

This report provides an overview of District issues and projects that we have been working on since the last board meeting.

OPERATIONS – WINTER 2020

- We have about 40 panels to replace. That work is getting started.
- Prison crew has been here for two weeks, working on Boardman laterals. They were called off to help with the flooding clean-up in Pendleton. They are expected back Feb. 18. We will use a second prison crew for three days on the Relocation canal to make up the lost time.
- We have two excavators working on the main canal cleaning. Concrete panels have been marked and some removed. We have some deliveries to repair on the upper canal and a new installation on the Relocation Canal. Our work order system seems to have everything listed that we need to do.
- Crews are working 9-hour days now and on weekends. We are trying to get two laborers, but no luck yet. Adam will be off due to surgery after Wednesday.
- The liner has been ordered. We don't have a delivery date yet, so not sure if any will be installed before start-up. We need three days to complete the area started this fall.
- We will get the three Umatilla-Irrigon flooders converted to sprinkler this year. Stice is working on his system. Payne and Acock are working on theirs. I have hired a local owner-operator to assist with the canal and pipe work to assure we get it done before water start-up.
- I am working on delaying the Lateral 12 pipe project. With the flooding emergency in Pendleton and Reclamation not completing their work, we have no chance of getting a "Notice to Proceed" with time to do any work this spring. There are portions of this project and Lateral 15 that we can do during the water season, so we will head that direction. Letters will go out to the landowners after this Board meeting.
- We have set March 10 as our time to be ready for start-up of the main canal. April 1 for the Irrigon system and pump stations. I will check the electrical cost of starting the IPS in March and have that for you at the meeting.
- Our shop is substantially complete. We have already set Adam up as Shop Steward and are making that transition. See the enclosed SOP for the vehicle & equipment R&M.

NEWSLETTERS: Because of the early start-up, I wanted to get the newsletters out. They will go out this week.

PROJECT FUNDING: We have met with the Bank of Eastern Oregon, thanks to Vern for setting that up.

SHOP: The contractor has substantially completed his work on the shop. We will move in gradually, as time and budget allow. The first order will be to get something on the walls.

DISTRICT PERMANENT WATER RIGHT TRANSFERS: I received the Determination of Proof for Transfers T-11309 and T-12220 (from 2011 and 2015). Letters will go out to those landowners. This catches us up with “old” transfers. We have T-12801 and T-12809 from 2017, which are in the “proofing up” stage, and T-13334 which I filed in January. So, we are caught up – finally!! Dang, that feels so good.

DISTRICT TEMPORARY WATER RIGHT TRANSFERS: We will work on the temporary water right transfers for 2020 after the Board meeting.

UNION NEGOTIATIONS: Parties have exchanged first offers. We meet for the first time on Wednesday, Feb. 19 and again on Friday, Feb. 21. We will have review and discussion in Executive Session.