

## MANAGER'S REPORT - OCTOBER 2020

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

**BPA NOTIFICATION/CONJUNCTIVE USE WATER COST:** BPA reached out to us and Reclamation to expose an error in the way they have been figuring transmission costs for our conjunctive use. In a nutshell, they have been using 12.5% across the Board for transmission costs instead of taking the actual percentage of conjunctive use each month. Up to \$13,000 has been the annual error. They are not seeking to go back and make corrections. Starting October 1 of this year, they entered into a new wheeling agreement with Pacific Corp and will change how conjunctive use transmission costs are calculated. This will be in effect starting the 2021 irrigation season. Ryan Christianson from Reclamation was also on the call and will be at the board meeting to go over the issue.

**WATER SHUTDOWN:** Shutdown is coming. October 19 we will shut off Laterals 12 and 15 to start on easement work for the piping projects. October 20 is the Irrigon shutdown. October 21 will be the shut off of the pump stations along the main canal. Crew will work on drains and reading meters that week. The main canal will shut down Oct. 30.

**SHOP:** The crew was able to spend part of last few days on the bathroom. The bathroom is almost finished. Organization continues to get ready for fall work.

**PIPELINE PROJECTS UPDATE:** Morrow County completed their work at the Olsen and Wilson Road extension. Our crew installed Larry Sample's pipe. We are getting ready for the five road crossings that are on the project. Trees are being removed along the laterals. Once the canal is shutdown, we can start clearing the trees for the electrical line to be installed from McCarty to Lateral 15 for that pump station. The pump station for Lateral 12 is ready to be installed this fall. We are working on the private easements for pipelines and finalizing engineer design for the two projects. Ben is working on lining up equipment we will need for the projects and we have both been meeting with landowners and surveyor, Ron McKinnis.

We are working on several rights-of-way and easement issues that need clarification on the project. The north end of Miller Road has not been clear as to whether its public or not. Fortunately, all folks using it have agreements with us and Reclamation. Quail Lane, off Olsen Road, is a place we currently have some pipe and we plan to put in more for the project. However, it appears to be an easement rather than a public road.

**LINER AT PATTERSON FERRY:** A seam in the liner at Patterson Ferry came apart mid-season. It was further exacerbated with the water start-up at the last shutdown (fire & wind). We will get to that shortly after the season to investigate it and plan the repair. There is a lot of ground movement in the area, as we know, and this separation took place quickly and in the area of where we typically see damage, but on the north side of the canal. We have some plans as to how to repair it. The flexibility of this liner is incredible to allow the repair, which is the main reason we chose it. We have some liner yet to install and plan to continue that work in

the fall. If we can find a way to stabilize the Coyote Springs area, we would like to consider lining along Gattenbein corner or Donovan Meadows in Boardman as our next lining project.

We have some ideas on how to do additional drainage work in the Coyote Springs area. We hope to get to that this fall.

**CANAL ROAD WORK:** We have not moved forward yet with the road work. Ben has met with Wise and we are comparing quotes. I am thinking about the letters and hope to have a clear thought process on that and setting up landowner meetings next week. I will likely do phone meetings or in person at their property. We ran into an issue with the Boor property. Previously owned by Tatone family, they refused to sign the agreement at the time. They told us they had other access. Joe had passed away and Alice was ill. Daughter Linda took over and, frankly, we just didn't get it done. Well, they do have access through Dirksen's property, but they did not develop it. I am not sure if Boor is aware of his legal access. Ben and I will hand carry the letter and documents to him and set up a meeting.

**IRRIGON SURPLUS PROPERTY:** Reclamation has taken a long time to approve the relocation of easement on the property. We keep hearing its about complete. Darryl, the buyer, is patiently waiting and still interested in the property. Hopefully, we can get that done by the end of this month.

**OFFICE CLOSURE:** We would like to close the office on Oct. 29 and 30. Lisa and I both have personal commitments. The pressurized systems will all be shut down by then.