

MANAGER'S REPORT - JUNE 2021

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

OPERATIONS: Ben will give an update on the craziness the crew has been up to.

New employee, Don Gerber, started June 14 as an Irrigation System Operator. Don comes to us with a CDL and the endorsements. His resume shows Management/Supervisory experience, fabrication, mechanic, equipment experience and construction. Leased worker, John Munkers, is still out with Covid recovery.

IRRIGON PUMP STATION UPDATE: The new pump has been ordered. It came in at \$44,000. Vern and I looked at the drawings again for the pump cans and want to continue discussion about the intake structure. The pump, in addition to its size, may be restricted by the lack of flow inside the can. Garry agrees and we plan to run some tests next week. By connecting the cans, we should help this problem. Discussion at the meeting.

TELEMETRY: Our telemetry is still down. The radios took longer to get here than planned. They should arrive the end of this week. Rock Enterprises will get right on the upgrade. The crew is running key areas of the ditch three times per day to keep a log of the water changes. They are really understanding the importance of the measurement sites, so that part is good.

LATERAL 12 PROJECT: Crew plans to start the completion of the project this week. New employee, Gerber, had looked at this project prior to hire and we plan for him to be the main lead on the piping projects. There is a demand for the smaller excavator required to complete the project, but we have it starting Wednesday. Leased worker Steve Villegas will stay on to help with the project until we can get John back.

NEW PICKUP FOR 2021: Though Ben and I spoke several times about ordering the new pickup, I don't believe it has been done. I am curious if the Board wants to hold off for another year. If we bring someone new in, we can work out the use of a private vehicle. I believe we should consider putting that money to the telemetry upgrade (see below).

REQUEST FROM DOHERTYS: Doherty have several questions about their ditches and have talked to their Director, Dalarie. We will review and discuss their concerns.

CANAL OUTAGE: We had a canal outage Tuesday afternoon at 4 pm. Apparently, a power pole caught on fire. Pacific Power was quickly on-site and worked to replace the pole and reinstate the power. We had the water up at 11 pm. This time, we spent a lot of time learning who was staying on and turning off and we started up the pumps in two stages. Thus, avoiding the flooding we had in Boardman two years ago. It took some work and I can see that I will need to write up a protocol for such an event. There are a lot of moving parts. Alan worked the event and was very thorough. He took Don out for the initial shutdowns. We will have water fully up by about 3 pm on Thursday. So, 16 hours from start-up.

MAPBOOK: The first draft of the map book is complete. We can see where the actual alignment of the main canal varies from the County maps. We will come up with a legend that shows how the federal ROW rights were acquired. Then, we start working with the County on this project so our records are the same. I will bring the maps to the meeting. Lisa is probably 50% on the research for Morrow County. It's a good start. We will do Morrow County, then Irrigon.

VACATIONS: Lisa and I are planning back to back vacations in July to visit family. We would like the Board to consider moving the July meeting to July 22. This is on the agenda. Ben is hoping to get a week off near the end of June. I hope Alan and Adam can find some time to take a full week off this summer.