

MANAGER'S REPORT - JANUARY 2020

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

BUDGET WORK: Lisa and I have been working on how to present the budget so you have the information you need. The financials presented to you each month give you all the information on our cash position, payables and receivables for that month's end. How to put that into a budget is more difficult, as the cash position is a moving target and the year end is typically not known until well after the budget process. That said, we are working on it and will have the budget ready for discussion and review at the Board meeting.

FIELD EMPLOYEES: Cougar quit his job in early January. I've talked with our crew and let them know that we would not replace this position, but are considering hiring an Operation System Manager Trainee – someone that would be considered for Operations Manager after the one-year training period. Gary will work until the end of March or water start-up. I am concerned about an equipment operator at that time, as Cougar was working out well in that position. The budget work will help us figure out what to do and I am working on options.

OP MANAGER SEARCH: I put an ad on Indeed.com for the Trainee position (mentioned above). We have received 22 applicants so far. Four have been selected for a job interview this week. We will have executive session to discuss the process for any applicants that would go to the next step.

OPERATIONS – WINTER 2020

- During January, crew plans to finish the Headgate repairs and lay the pipe for the Sample property. Canal cleaning continues. Due to the heavy silt and overburden, it is slow going and will likely take most of the time we have left.
- We have ordered 1000 feet of liner that will be installed upstream of I-84. The liner should be here in late February, when it will be installed.
- We are in the process of checking the canal for concrete work. I anticipate about 60 panels of work, plus patching. This will be done in February.
- We plan to bring the prison crew in ASAP.
- We have set March 10 as our time to be ready to start-up.

DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY: The updated policy is included in the Board packet. This was prepared by Mike Snyder, our consultant, who also worked with Colleen Weinhoff, owner of Bio-Med. I recommend we adopt this policy, which meets State and Federal standards.

SURPLUS PROPERTY: We have an offer for property in Irrigon that we can discuss in Executive session.

ENVIRONMENTAL WORK: Reclamation has dropped the ball on this work. They did not submit to the CTUIR by the end of December as promised. They do not know when they can submit. In the meantime, I contacted the cultural department to get started on a contract for their archeologist. They asked me to bring an outline of the project, which I will do.

LATERAL 12 PROJECT: At this time, the best we can hope for is a February 17 start date. We will need four weeks for the concrete removal and pipe installation. The pump station and parts have been ordered. We will have everything done that we can without digging anything up. This would be the pipelines outside the project, the Headgate and screen and the road crossings.

PROJECT FUNDING: At this time, there are two considerations – A bond through SDAO or a line of credit at the bank. We plan to have enough information for the Board to have some discussion and direction.