

MANAGER'S REPORT - FEBRUARY 2022

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

It has been so busy. Ben was off a couple weeks with Covid. Alan, who had missed the month of January due to his family and then he getting covid, came back early February. Fortunately, Adam, Don and Tassie kept working. Tassie has been mowing until two weeks ago when the mower broke down. She worked on the Piping Project as they were pushing pipe then.

Several items are on this agenda. We plan on folks to call in or stop by the meeting.

- 1) Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) – they want to review their District Brief with the Board.** A copy is enclosed, so please look it over. They will call in.
- 2) Bureau of Reclamation – Chet and the current interim Manager will be at the Board meeting.** Wendy Neal, who now works for Windwave, may attend the meeting.
- 3) Spencer Rockwell is available to discuss the legal filing regarding the BOLI claim. He will call in for the executive session.**
- 4) Board members and engineers from South Suburban Sanitary District in Klamath Falls will stop by our meeting and want to discuss the Reuse project from our perspective.** How it went; what we did for PR; any concerns, etc. They will have met with the City of Hermiston and should be at our meeting between 11- 11:15..

OPERATIONS:

Crews are now all on the main canal. We have a rented excavator plus our own. We found a 5-man labor crew that seems to be working out. They are doing burning now and will help with the concrete work and lateral clean-up. Inmate crews are still in lock-down. Ben will give an update at the meeting as things are moving rapidly.

PROJECT: The pipe is in and bedded except for a length on the Holmes property from his driveway to Tobin property. The ditch is dug though. We needed to pull off to get onto the canal work. The work through Tobins was tedious with her fences, trees, shrubs, yard fence, utility lines. The crew did a good job and she is happy, except for lost vegetation.

POWER TO NEW PUMP STATION: The Bureau of Reclamation let us know a week ago that they need to do a cultural review for the work that UEC & WEID are doing to put in the new powerline for the pump. This is a serious delay. I am in the process of getting crew from Anderson Perry down to do the work and write it up for Reclamation. Even then, we are months out for electrical.

WINDWAVE: Windwave filed a request with Reclamation in February, 2021 for several crossings of our Boardman laterals along Olsen, Miller and Kunze and for two crossings of our main canal. We have several discussions with Sean, former Hermiston BOR manager, about the

process as Reclamation was making changes and we were no longer being asked to review the final documents. We discuss this with Christi Davis-Kernan, Acting Field Manager, in June and July. A letter of agreement from Reclamation to Windwave was issued, then called back since WEID had not reviewed it and there was an issue with a previously unauthorized crossing.. Apparently, two other letters of permit were issued without notice to WEID. Both to UEC. We have those copies now. There are some concerns with the work that the UEC contractor has done along our canal, but we will work with them to restore the area prior to canal start-up. We do not anticipate a problem with this.

The work for Windwave remains unfinished. On or about Feb. 3, 2022 BOR let us all know that since the crossing at Paterson Ferry is on fee title ground, it will need a cultural review. Now, we are hearing that a cultural review will be needed at the Miller Road crossing. Windwave has submitted another request that will involve crossing the canal just behind McGraw subdivision, which is also fee title ground. Windwave has a lot going on. I anticipate that Wendy Neal, who is now working for Windwave, will be at the Board meeting. It will be a good time to discuss a few things – 1) How far we want the boring under our laterals and under the main canal? 2) How can a cultural review be done for the borings, especially if they start the bore outside the ROW area? 3) How can we move these requests along quicker? It will be important for us all to be on the same page for these fiber optics infrastructure situations.

PERMITS/CROSSINGS/ABANDONMENTS/RECLAMATION INTERACTIONS: I have included a matrix that shows the ongoing issues on these crossings, agreements, abandonments. Right now, we are just getting information on various properties and will do an abandonment of one line at a time. We will work on what is called the “Railroad Line” in Irrigon this summer. That line seems to be part of the Bailey Ditch company from 1893. Various sections of it were abandoned in the late 1970’s and the rest when we piped Irrigon in 1998.

PUMPS FOR NEW BOARDMAN STATION: They are in.

IRRIGON PUMP STATION UPDATE: The motor has been done. Still waiting for the pump to return.

EQUIPMENT: We got the Dump Truck back. The bill will be with the Accounts Payable so you can see the work that was done. The axel on the mower broke a couple weeks ago. RDO did the repair. Abe looked at it for us and he has some thoughts on the weight it is carrying with the side boom. We should discuss that at the meeting.

ADMINISTRATION:

FEE SCHEDULE: I recommend raising some of our development fees by \$100. Two items affect this:

- 1) All are requiring a delivery agreement and we forget to charge that fee of \$40.
- 2) We are researching each one to identify any federal easements on the properties and thus, more interaction with the owner/developer.

The other area where we need to raise the fees is the cost of new outlets. The current fee schedule and the recommended one is in the Board packet.

Manager’s Report

IRRIGON LANDOWNER MEETING: The final agenda is in the Board packet. We covered most of this at the meeting. Lisa and I thought it went very well. We can get a report from Abe, Whitney to see what they thought.

LANDOWNER BOOKLET & DEVELOPMENT MANUAL: I have been working on these a bit. The landowner booklet is complete, from my perspective. I updated it after the Irrigon meeting, adding some information they were interested in. I included it in the packet so you can look it over and comment.

The Development book is in draft stage, but I thought you could see how it was coming along. Comments on this are welcome. Is it heading in the right direction? Are the planned topics correct?

UPDATE TO OPERATIONS: On Monday, we got notice that the Inmate crew or Adults in Custody can work. They will start Tuesday, Feb. 15. We will put them on the Boardman laterals and Boardman concrete work. We plan to keep the current work crew on the burning and then to the patching of concrete and cleanup in the upper canal. Don and Adam are running the excavators on the main canal. The tractor (Tassie) is mowing and Alan has finally started spraying.