

MANAGER'S REPORT - JULY 2015

This report provides an overview of District issues and projects.

IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT: As stated last month, folks are paying attention to water, being conservative for the most part. We are managing the canal water very closely, thus eliminating most of the end spills. I will have a preliminary report on conjunctive use water for the Board meeting. The Irrigon system has used 51% of its water through July 16. We hired Neila Coffman as a ditchrider and enforcement person. She has taken to the job and it has really helped us with water management.

DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY GOALS: Over the past month, I have done the following towards improving water supply:

- Met with Hermiston Irrigation District management and Board and with Bureau of Reclamation regarding the use of water from Cold Springs. Approval from all to move ahead. Identified areas of concern for HID canal and will work with them to address. HID will have excess water rights. They would prefer primary use of their water, and we are identifying lands where water could be applied. Some may involve a boundary inclusion. This is all very preliminary.
- Discussed storage with Ben and Alex (JUB). We will start looking for grant funds to assist in assessment of two areas. Reminder that the City of Hermiston and perhaps Umatilla (see below) may become a partner in acquiring storage as it is to their benefit.
- Discussed getting water from City of Umatilla with City and with their engineer, JUB, La Grande office. Water would come from data processing center at Port of Umatilla. We will explore using Phase I canal and pump station for delivery. There appears to be a lot of discussion between the City, the Port and CTUIR about more development at the Port and the City will be managing that water. Very preliminary.

FEDERAL MODELING EFFORT – UMATILLA BASIN: The Reclamation hydrologists will be in the Basin on the 20th and 21st to meet with various parties about the modeling they are planning for the Umatilla Basin. Our meeting time is 3 pm at the BOR office on Diagonal. Any Board members wanting to attend are welcome.

BOARDMAN MASTER PLAN: Alex and Ben (JUB) and I have talked about the BMP update and have a recommended direction for update. I'd like to get this done as we are applying for the DEQ water quality loan for enclosing canals. Discussion at the Board meeting.

BOARDMAN LATERALS: We are working on lateral 7 and 5. Sage Hollow came by and we discussed their contribution of \$10,000 towards the project. No definite word from Morrow County for the rock. Working to address the tree removal along the laterals. The federal historic review is getting started. Since we have only \$25,000 in grant funds now, we will look to the DEQ revolving loan program. My intent is to get enough for Laterals 5, 7, 9,

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11, and 17. For laterals 9 and 11, I am working on some matching dollars from the landowners and the state or Morrow County. These will be the first phase of our Boardman piping. The second phase will be Laterals 12, 13 and 15. Then to the lower end of Boardman, likely starting with laterals 30 and 31. I am also trying to convince Tobin Pierce to go to sprinkler and find assistance for him. That would eliminate deliveries 25 and 26. I think what we find for Pierce would be a template for others in that end of Boardman to convert to sprinkler irrigation.

IPS SCREEN PROJECT/\$100,000 PAYMENT REQUEST: We have received the proceeds from the bond sale - \$478,097. You will find a new report in the financial statements for this account. Herb Stahl would like a payment of \$100,000 for what he has spent so far. He hasn't gathered receipts, but the screens have been purchased, engineering done, Ross Machine work to build the screens, core drilling for historical purposes completed, and the permit process costs. I recommend we approve the \$100,000 as a first payment on the project.

ITEMS TO REVIEW AT THE JULY MEETING:

POST BOND ISSUANCE COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES: This is a directive for us to adopt to assure we remain in compliance with bond issuance procedures, including annual reporting, for the length of the bond. Board should review and adopt.

SDAO/SDIS BEST PRACTICES: Review for this meeting. We need to update our Board meeting and public records policy. Will have that for the September meeting.

AUDIT – 2013: We did not review the 2013 audit and these were distributed at the July 6 special meeting. We should accept the audit at this Board meeting. The 2014 audit should be available at the September meeting.

VACATION: I will be on vacation from July 31 through August 8.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Monday, September 21. No August Board meeting.