

MANAGER'S REPORT - NOVEMBER 2015

This report provides an overview of District issues and projects.

ROBBINS LAWSUIT: The Robbins were successful in their lawsuit against the District. It was a three-day jury trial in Heppner. Either way the trial went, I realize that we need to change the way we train our employees, track our work (and training) and handle customer complaints. This will be a topic of discussion at the Board meeting.

OPERATIONS: Winter work has started. We have prepared a matrix showing the work to be done this season. It will be updated as the maintenance season continues. We are also working on a more formal tracking system of the canal inspections and work that is done. The prison crew starts Nov. 19. We will have them for four weeks. Ray and I will do the first Boardman canal inspection on Nov 12th and 13th.

LATERALS 7 and 5: I have hired the consultant to do the historical work. The engineers just got the delivery scope back. I anticipate being able to get bids on the pipe next week. Next are letters, easements and permissions on property for historical work.

IPS SCREEN PROJECT: Herb Stahl has the permit. Here is the progress so far:

- Manifold dug up – 36-inch, rusted – cannot be lined, so need replacement
- Penstock pipe – 26-inch (part may be 30, not sure), likely not a good product for lining
- Ray has pictures and we will discuss this at the board meeting
- Pumps and motors – Set to be pulled by Layne Pumps in the next ten days. The 300 Hp pump is the original; the impeller has been worked on many times. We will look at modifying or replacing. The other two should be fine with some work. Pumps – much the same.

WATER SMART GRANT: Applications for a Bureau conservation grant under the Water Smart program are out and due back mid-January. We will look at laterals 12, 13 and 15. Plan is to eliminate 13 and transfer those folks to either 12 or 15. We will ask for \$1 million under the grant.

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK: Just a heads up that I am getting more and more behind on the administrative part of my job – finishing and following water right transfers are the most burdensome to me right now. I just wanted you to know in case you got complaints about response time. I will use Lisa to help with some of the new tracking forms that we need.

OWRC CONFERENCE: The annual conference is in Hood River Dec. 1 – 4. If a Board member is interested in attending, please let me know. There is a training on Public meetings and public records that I will attend on Tues and a SDAO training Friday morning.