

Greenfields

IRRIGATION DISTRICT

On Tuesday August 8th, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. the Greenfields Irrigation District (GID) held its Monthly Board meeting. The following are the minutes taken from that meeting. Those in attendance were: Board President Tim Brunner, Vice President Bill Norris, Commissioners Chase Brady, Dave Gulick and Pat Brosten. District Manager Erling Juel and Board Secretary Jenny Gulick were also present. Also, in attendance were: GID employees: O&M Foreman Eric Mayer, Water Master Steve Lettengarver and Operator Cory Copenhaver. GID Range Rider Ron Wilson was in attendance, as was Tracy Wendt with SRWG and Advisory Board Member Chris Ostberg.

The meeting was called to order by President Brunner at 6 P.M.

Approve Meeting Minutes and Monthly Warrants: The first item of business was to approve the minutes from the July 10th Regular Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes. No discrepancies were found in the minutes, and Commissioner Brosten made a motion to approve the minutes, with Commissioner Brady seconding the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. No discrepancies were found in the Executive Session Minutes and Commissioner Brosten moved to approve the minutes, with Commissioner Brady seconding. All were in favor and the motion carried. The Warrants List was then reviewed. A brief discussion was had on GID's insurance coverage premium and options to downscale the areas covered to save money on next year's premium. Commissioner Gulick moved to approve the warrants and Commissioner Brady seconded. All in favor and the warrants were approved.

Parties Presenting Issues: None.

Contacts to Execute: None.

The next item of business was the Manger's Report:

Reservoir and River Operations: See M.R. for full details. Gibson Reservoir will be shutting off on Sunday evening. Inflows are way below normal, 63 to 81% of normal. If we choose to run it longer, then we risk the chance of leaving it below acceptable winter levels and damaging the concrete infrastructure. The National Climate Prediction Center is predicting slightly above normal temps and normal precipitation for August through October and November to January is predicted to be well-above normal temps and well-below normal precipitation. Manager Juel gave a brief summary of the overall water season, and a brief discussion was then had regarding excess water.

Water Rights: Manager Juel is still trying to amend the overall Project water right to reflect recent amendment to the Project authorization with respect to hydropower generation. Adjudication is on-going and Nancy is still working with Bureau representative to fix the boundary discrepancies.

GID Staff Updates: Ditch Rider Ethan Brosten's last day was August 6th and there are currently no plans to replace him until a later date. The two weed sprayers and mower man will work through the end of the month.

Office Improvements & General Administration: Our insurance annual premium is now almost triple what it was last year and the GID Board will need to look at raising annual O&M rates to absorb this increase. FSID has decided to raise their rates by \$3.60/acre. We are in receipt of the Audit Proposal for the year ending on 10-31-22, provided in Board packets. Douglas Wilson has agreed to provide a

single audit in accordance with the \$750K Federal grant funds policy that requires such, to be included along with their annual audit review to be conducted.

GIS Mapping, Plats, Database & Certification Updates: Nothing new to report.

Farm Unit Operations: Nothing new.

Monthly Financials & 2023 Budget: See M.R. for details. We will do another loan draw from the local bank to cover payroll. Turnbull Hydro revenue is down due to the slow start of the water season and the money GID had to pay to cover needed repairs. July should be good, but August will also be much lower than normal.

GID Vehicles & Heavy Equipment: See the M.R. for details. Commissioner Gulick gave a brief update on the newly rebuilt water pump on the crane. We sold an excess ditch rider truck and are in the process of getting quotes for new ditch rider trucks.

Pearson Lawsuit: See M.R. for an update. Pearson has filed an appeal for judicial review with the local District Court and is challenging the decision of the HRB appeal board. We are awaiting the appointment of a new judge to the case. The Board advised Manager Juel to make some inquiries to Mark with MACO and Stephanie Oblander as to our options to file a countersuit.

Willow Creek Feeder Canal Maintenance & Lawsuit: See the M.R. for further information. There is very little to report.

Hydro Updates: Public Service Commissioner, Annie Bukacek, finished her presentation of GID's hydropower efforts and possibility of getting Gibson online. Arnold Coulee LOPP: The executed LOPP has been finalized and is done. SREC will start planting more poles the week of August 21st. The anticipated completion date is December. Easements: Our BLM case worker is back on the case. The Cultural Resources expert has to amend the study due to movement of original transmission line alignment. Manager Juel is working with Merle Morris to get the PSC road to be considered a public road, which would require Reclamation to not object to the request. There is also still debate with WAPA and Northwestern Energy about who will purchase the energy generated. There is nothing new to report on the PPA submitted to NWE on March 9th. Design Drawings: Manager Juel met with Ted Sorenson at the site on July 19th. The foundation block design is being reviewed by a structural engineer. We are still waiting for the finished drawings. Turbine-Generator Purchase: We made a payment on August 2nd for \$177,250, which puts us at 90% paid in full for the Arnold Coulee site and 45% for both sites. WEEG reports are due on September 30th for the WEEG WaterSmart Grant. Pishkun Inlet Hydro: Funding in progress. We are working on the preliminary grant administration requirements for the WaterSmart WEEG, the preliminary loan requirements for the \$5.03M loan guarantee through USBR's Aging Infrastructure Account and the preliminary grant requirements for the \$125K DNRC grant and \$1.5 million State guarantee. LOPP: Manager Juel sent a request to Reclamation to finalize the permitting process for this site and the final LOPP was sent to the DOI solicitor general for review. Gibson Hydro: We received FERC's termination letter effective the 1st week of August. The Lt. Governor will discuss GID's request for State financial assistance from Gibson Dam since the project will have tremendous public benefits.

GID Infrastructure Projects: For Current and Planned, see the M.R. Steve is working with the design engineer to reconfigure the ditch crossings on Highway 89 as we had proposed 2 years ago. Sun River Bridge Replacement: There was a progress meeting held on July 17th to discuss field work, TSL report, and cost estimates. Land ownership/authority issues have arisen between BOR and NFS over the withdrawn land. Also, issues regarding the public use status of the PSC road may be a concern.

Greenfields

Inspection of the Sun River siphon is scheduled for August 22nd after the seasonal termination of the PSC. SRS 71 Check: O&M Foreman Mayer is reviewing the drawings, along with his staff to build the replacement structure in the field as a cast-in-place version. Tunnel #3 Roof Collapse: A brief discussion was had regarding GID's option to only complete a portion of the repairs needed, in phases, if the funds are not available to do the whole project. Lower GSC Rehabilitation: The pipe for the project has been ordered and will be here next Monday. We have secured a \$75K WaterSmart grant, and in-kind costs will have to be reported. Mayer gave a brief verbal update on the removal of the outside shed as a safety precaution due to its collapse potential. Manager Juel provided the Board with an updated Budget and a discussion was then held on the 3% increase in labor costs, as well as the inflation rate increase, we have experienced of 5 to 8%. The increase in the insurance premium will require a \$2.38/acre assessment rate increase. With insurance and labor increases, it is a minimum of a \$3/acre rate increase requirement.

Title Transfer: Received the draft MOU and agreement from USBR to move forward. We haven't had time to review it yet.

GID Grazing Lease Program: Range Rider Wilson gave a brief update. He informed the Board that weeds are quite an issue this year, as we have experienced a few years of drought conditions. Ron is noting that many lessees are utilizing conservation practices. The Teton County Weed Specialist advised using pyramid chemical in the Fall to combat the problem. Wilson suggested strategizing early grazing of cattle to help with the problem, as well.

District Modernization Effort with FCA: We are now having weekly meetings with the FCA. WWC is being sought to assist with the WBM and SIP. Still no update on the historic Muddy Creek gravel pit closeout.

Miscellaneous: We have not received word back yet on the Kasper pit permit. The Bureau will be removing Duke's camper from Willow Creek tomorrow.

Short and Long-Term To-Do Lists: See the M.R. for details.

Agenda:

- 1) The Board needs to approve the 2022 Audit Proposal from Douglas Wilson, provided in packet. No issues were noted and Commissioner Brosten moved to approve the proposal with Commissioner Brady seconding. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- 2) The Board needs to determine the 2024 Assessment rate. A brief discussion was held. Vice President Norris made moved to raise the O&M assessment rate by \$5/acre and Commissioner Brosten seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- 3) Board to discuss whether excess water would be available this year. It is determined that the Board, along with the GID Water Master, all unanimously believe that excess water should not be allowed this year.
- 4) Pasture Grazing Lessee, Tim Rapp, has requested to winter graze on Pasture #30, see handout provided. Commissioner Gulick made a motion to approve the request and Vice President Norris seconded. All in favor and the motion carried.
- 5) Board to review request from Water User, Levi Ostberg, to be reimbursed due to crop damage incurred because of a GID check leak, see handout provided. A brief discussion was had on the factors behind the cause of the damage incurred. Commissioner Gulick moved to approve his request and Commissioner Brosten seconded. The majority were in favor of approving the request to reimburse Levi \$1,163 and the motion carried.

Public Comment: Tracy Wendt with SRWG gave a brief update, handout provided. On August 2nd, there was a Water Management Late Season phone conference held between SRWG, GID, FSID, Broken O, FW&P and the BOR Water Management Committee Chairman. She gave a summary regarding the outcome. There is an upcoming Low Tech Restoration Workshop planned. The next Board Meeting and Water Management Meeting will be held on October 19th at 10 A.M. At Thursday's FSID Monthly Board Meeting, Tracy and Manager Juel will be present to explain that FSID has exceeded its water right allotment, and will not be able to receive additional water unless it is approved by GID Management.

Commissioner Brosten moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Brady seconded. All in favor and the meeting is adjourned at 7:46 P.M.



Board President



Board Secretary

Board Action Recap:

- Board approved the 2022 Audit Proposal provided by Douglas Wilson.
- Board voted to increase the Annual O&M rate from \$28/acre to \$33/acre.
- Board determined that Excess Water would not be allowed for the 2023 season.
- Board approved the request from Tim Rapp to winter graze on Pasture #30.
- Board approved the request from Levi Ostberg to be reimbursed from crop loss due to GID check leakage.



AGENDA FOR: Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday August 8th at 6 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Board President, Tim Brunner.

Public Comment: Prior to each agenda item...limited to 5 minutes...any Board action necessary will be addressed at the next regular meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES: July 10th Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes

REVIEW AND APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT—Approve July warrants and recap list.

PARTIES PRESENTING ISSUES:

CONTRACTS TO EXECUTE: None

MANAGER's REPORT

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1) Approve 2022 Audit Proposal from Douglas Wilson, provided in packet.
- 2) Determine 2024 Assessment
- 3) Discuss Whether Excess Water will be available.
- 4) Tim Rapp request to Winter Graze on Pasture #30.
- 5) Water User Levi Ostberg request for reimbursement due to GID canal leakage, see attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- SRWG, Tracy Wendt, handout provided.

1:07 PM

08/03/23

Accrual Basis

GREENFIELDS IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Monthly Warrant List

July 2023

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
Jul 23				
07/03/2023	35263	Martin's Mufflers	EXHAUST REPAIRS	-65.00
07/03/2023	35264	Fairfield Swim Day	Swim Day Donation	-100.00
07/03/2023	35265	Shop Specialties, LLC	clean ash, cad cell, etc.	-379.40
07/10/2023	35299	Local Government Service Bureau	annual filing fee	-1,300.00
07/10/2023	35300	True Value	SHOP REPAIRS AND SUPPLIES	-308.04
07/10/2023	35301	National Laundry	shop towels	-8.27
07/10/2023	35302	Visa	phone, repairs & supplies, computer utilities	-416.32
07/10/2023	35303	Republic Services	weed control	-135.95
07/10/2023	35304	Heartland Ag Systems	boot reimbursement	-5.00
07/10/2023	35328	Travis Schenk	retirement	-100.00
07/12/2023	35329	TB - MPERA	81-6001490	-8,028.17
07/12/2023	35330	TB - 941	4052635002wth	-10,784.42
07/12/2023	35331	TB - SWT	031 1512	-2,189.00
07/10/2023	35332	TB - UI Tax	gas tank	-1,365.75
07/13/2023	35333	Sieler, Daniel	GIS with Nancy	-1,000.00
07/13/2023	35334	Enviro Tech Watershed Consultant	5 year service agreement	-270.00
07/13/2023	35335	General Distributing Co	#10 truck	-1,235.00
07/13/2023	35336	Jon's Automotive	phone reimb.	-256.11
07/13/2023	35337	Wyatt Awtrety	phone reimb.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35338	Employee Shad Beck	phone reimb.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35339	Ethan Brosten	PHONE REIMB.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35340	Jenny Gulick	PHONE REIMB.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35341	Employee Chaz Keller	phone reimb.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35342	Employee Tony May	phone reimb.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35343	Scott Neckstad.	PHONE REIMB.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35344	Employee Zech Shalz	phone reimb.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35345	Employee Andrew Quencer II	phone reimb.	-40.00
07/13/2023	35346	McCrometer, Inc	18" Open Flow Measuring Gauges	-6,132.00
07/24/2023	35347	PayneWest	REMAINING BALANCE ON INSURANCE PRE...	-86,113.55
07/26/2023	35376	Employee Michelle Lauver	cleaning supplies	-19.90
07/26/2023	35377	TB - 941	81-6001490	-10,155.54
07/26/2023	35378	TB - SWT	4052635002wth	-2,035.00
07/26/2023	35379	TB - MPERA	retirement	-7,604.83
07/26/2023	35380	Employee Eric Mayer	boots	-100.00
07/26/2023	35381	Jon's Automotive	#6 truck	-312.05
07/31/2023	35382	MT Teamsters Employers Trust	health insurance	-23,168.00
07/31/2023	35383	Motor Power	97 Ford Dump Truck	-746.79
07/31/2023	35384	A & I Distributors	repairs	-185.10

1:07 PM

08/03/23

Accrual Basis

GREENFIELDS IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Monthly Warrant List

July 2023

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
07/31/2023	35385	Gary Kasper & Company, Inc.	accounting-July	-1,200.00
07/31/2023	35386	Kelley Connect	office	-5,174.41
07/31/2023	35387	Aflac	insurance	-160.72
07/31/2023	35388	Western Conference of Teamsters Pe...	pension	-2,887.00
07/31/2023	35389	Teamster's Local #2	union dues	-893.00
07/31/2023	35390	Apar Engineering, PLLC	Arnold Coulee	-31,122.00
07/31/2023	35391	ASNA, Inc.	database support	-1,275.00
07/31/2023	35392	Augusta Gas Station, Inc.	fuel/oil	-837.65
07/31/2023	35393	Canadian Hydro. Com	Invoice 3792/ Arnold Coulee	-177,250.00
07/31/2023	35394	Choteau Ace	gas	-99.98
07/31/2023	35395	Cintas First Aid & Safety	first aid	-305.94
07/31/2023	35396	DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	Arnold Coulee	-4,772.69
07/31/2023	35397	Diesel Fever	repairs	-892.66
07/31/2023	35398	Fairfield Drug, Inc	office supply	-4.68
07/31/2023	35399	General Distributing Co	welding	-625.64
07/31/2023	35400	Home Depot Credit Services	supplies	-623.94
07/31/2023	35401	Ks Auto Parts	repairs/oil	-830.52
07/31/2023	35402	Ks Auto Parts - Choteau	repairs	-125.70
07/31/2023	35403	Macon Supply, Inc	repairs	-34.05
07/31/2023	35404	McCrometer, Inc	repairs	-383.41
07/31/2023	35405	MCI	long distance	-68.47
07/31/2023	35406	Mills Motor, Co.	repairs/supplies	-26.08
07/31/2023	35407	National Laundry	shop supply	-107.34
07/31/2023	35408	Northwest Parts & Equipment	repairs	-938.00
07/31/2023	35409	NorthWestern Energy	utilities	-14.62
07/31/2023	35410	R&R Fencing	contract services	-300.00
07/31/2023	35411	Severinsen Irrigation, LLC	repairs	-900.70
07/31/2023	35412	Sun River Electric, Co-Op	VOID:	0.00
07/31/2023	35413	Town of Fairfield	utilities	-233.00
07/31/2023	35414	True Value	shop supplies	-97.26
07/31/2023	35415	Victory Insurance Company	WC100-0010152-2023A	-2,895.00
07/31/2023	35416	BlueCross BlueShield of Montana	247191	-3,316.66
07/31/2023	35417	Sun River Electric, Co-Op	utilities	-3,413.33
07/31/2023	35418	Sun River Electric, Co-Op	Arnold Coulee	-150,000.00

Jul 23

-556,688.64

Recap of July 2023 warrants:

Regular warrants

July 2023 payroll

Total

Approved by

President

Date

\$556,688.64
 \$ 67,085.38
 \$623,774.02

Submitted by

Bookkeeper

Date

To: GID Commissioners
Jenny Gulick, GID Board Secretary

From: Erling A. Juel, P.E., District Manager

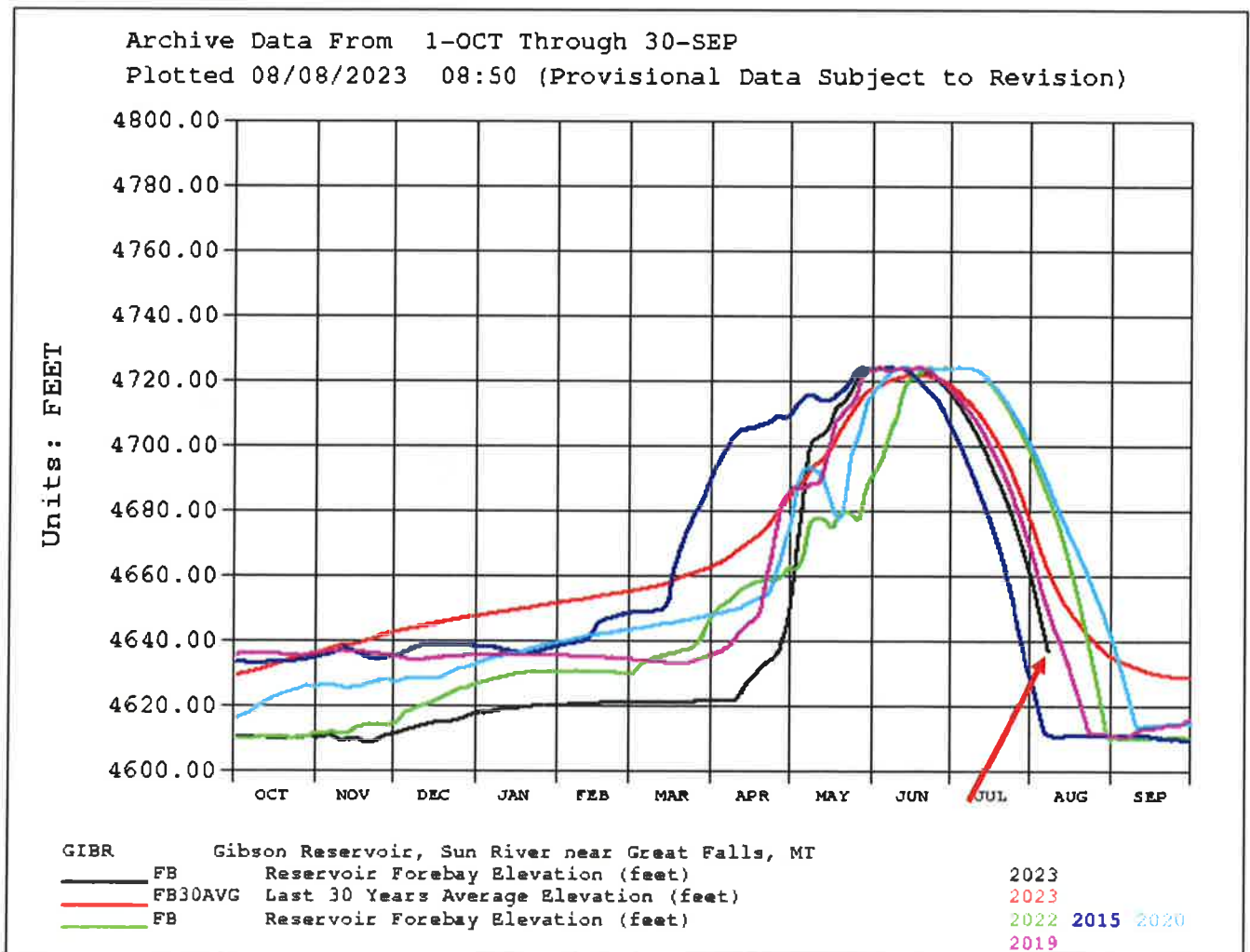
Subject: Manager's Report 08/08/23

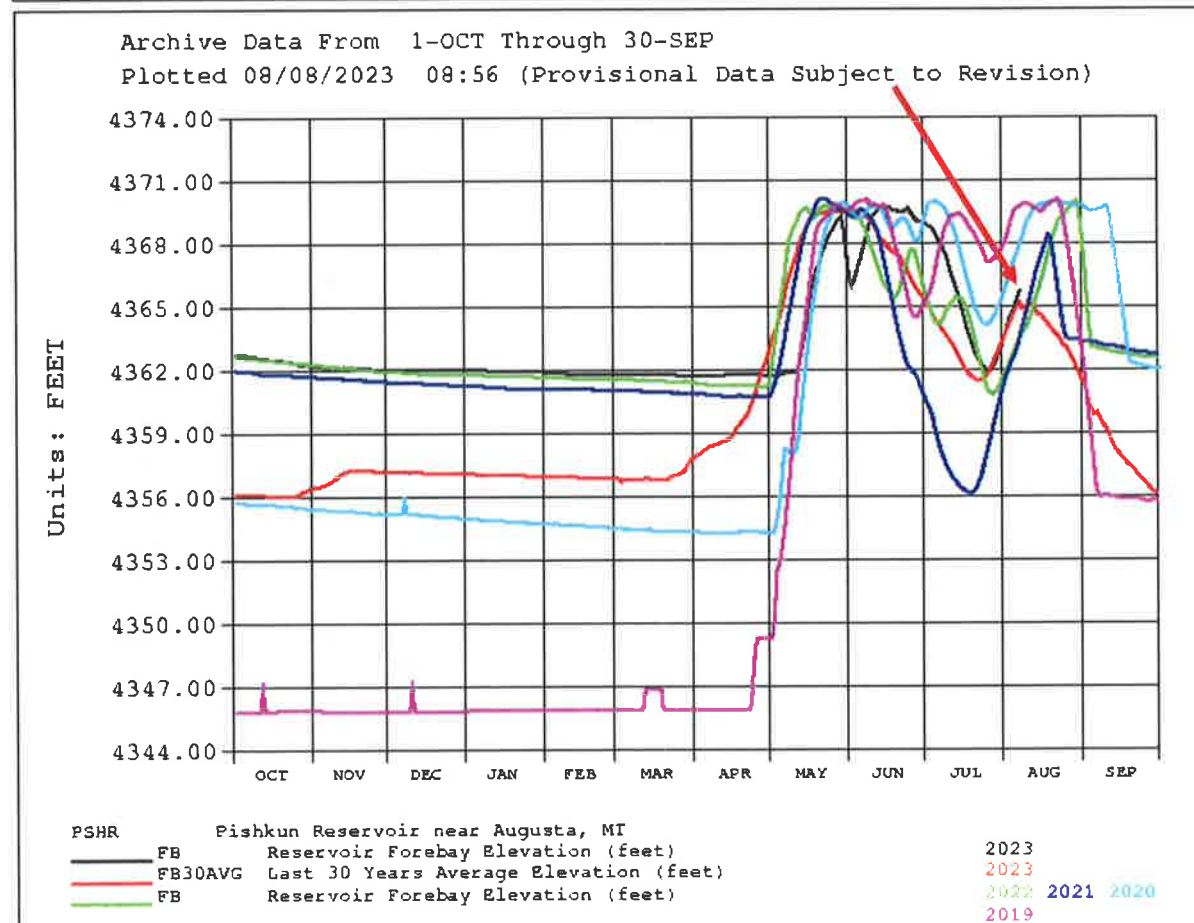
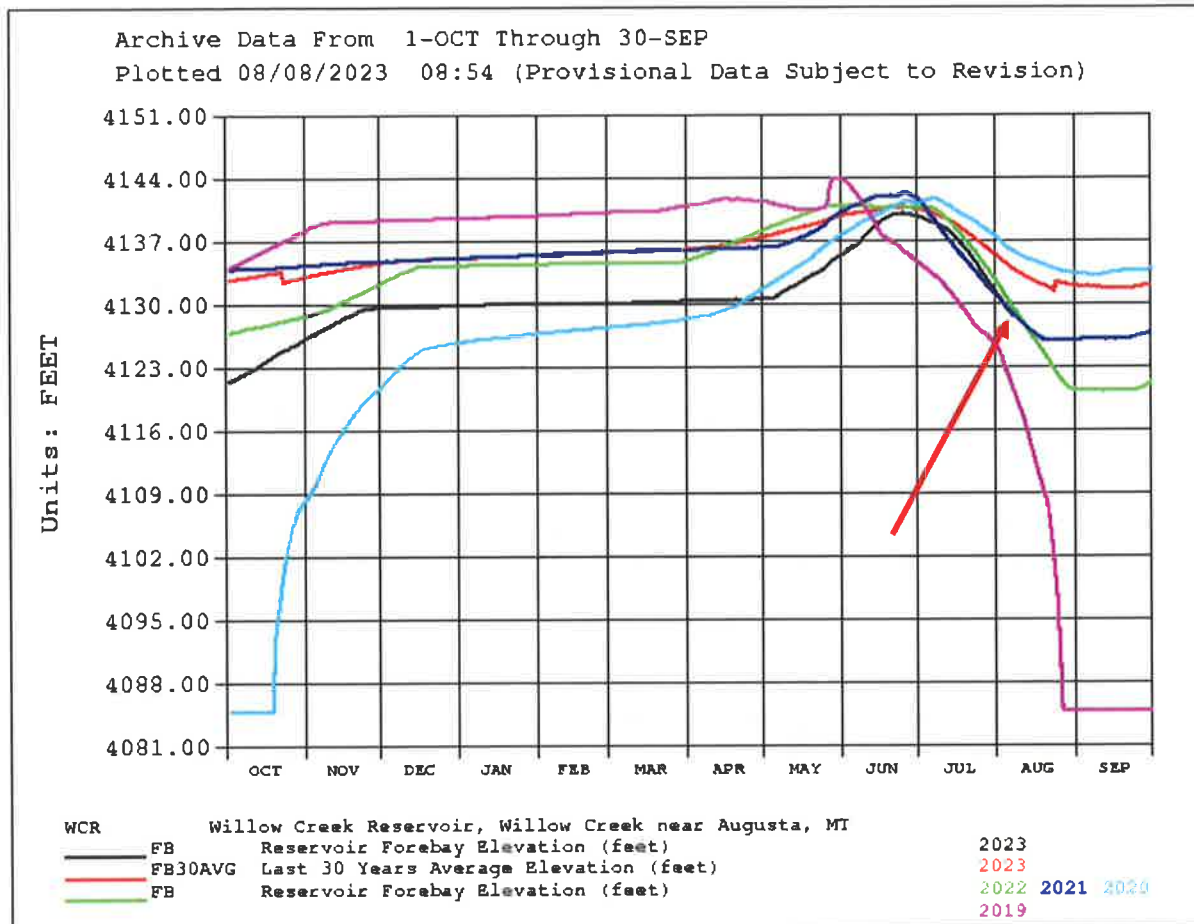
1) RESERVOIR & RIVER OPERATIONS AND PROJECTIONS AS OF 08/08/23

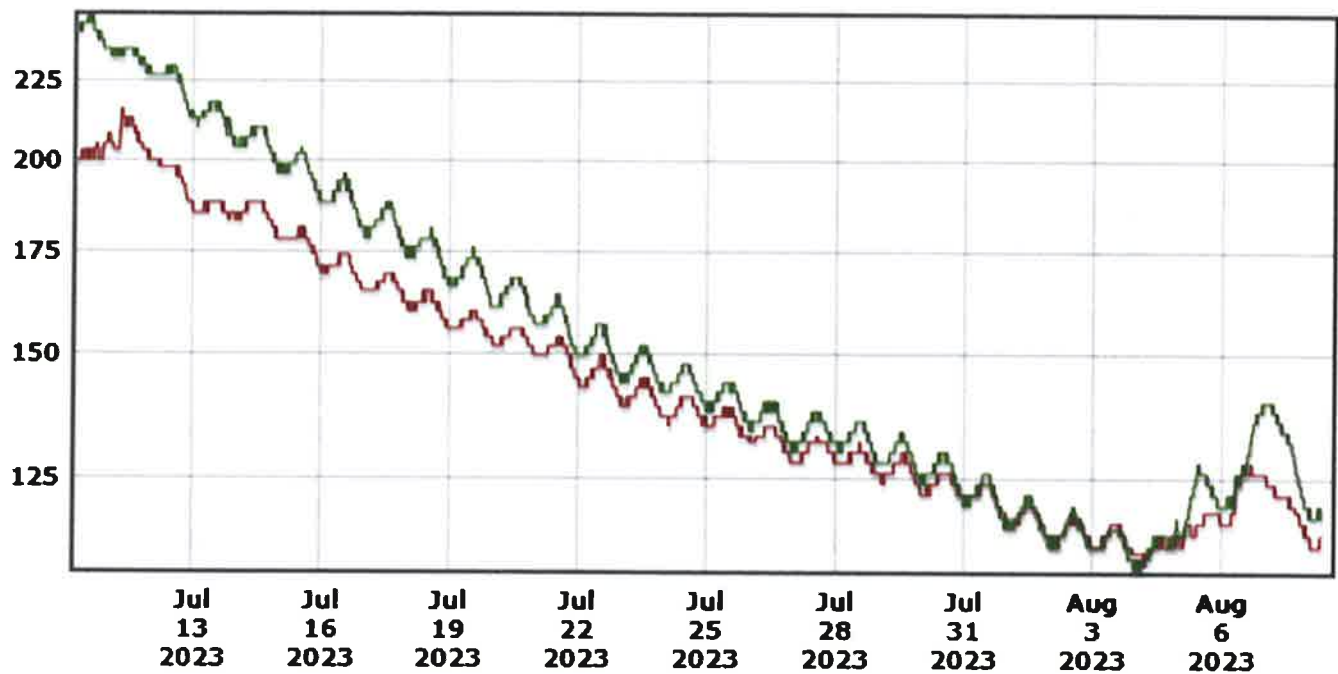
A. Reservoir operations and levels over the last 5 days were:

- Gibson Res: 18,500 Ac-ft, 18% Full & 56% of Normal, Dropping
- Gibson Inflows: varying from 280 to 330 cfs, 63% to 81 of Normal.
- Gibson Outflows: +/-1,360 cfs,
- Willow Creek Reservoir: 15,000 Ac-ft, 47% Full, 73% of Normal, Dropping
- Willow Creek Releases: +/-214 cfs
- Pishkun Reservoir: 25,000 Ac-ft, 87% Full, 102% of Normal, Rising
- Pishkun Inflows: 1,300 cfs
- Pishkun Releases: 1,090 cfs

B. The National Climate Prediction Center is now predicting slightly above normal temps and normal precipitation for August through October. November to January is predicted to be well-above normal temps and well-below normal precipitation.







INFLOWS – NORTH & SOUTH FORKS OF SUN RIVER

C. In summary.....

1. Gibson is expected to bottom out around August 13th to the 14th based on current projections. Will start stepping down the PSC on Saturday.
2. At current projections, Pishkun Reservoir will only last another 2 to 2.5 days.
3. Overall water season will end on or around August 17th.
4. Releases from Willow Creek Reservoir will continue on a limited basis. Need to have discussions with Ft Shaw Irrigation District on Thurs. the 10th.
5. Drain season will be relatively short.

2) GID WATER RIGHT ISSUES

- A. Still trying to amend the overall Project water right to reflect recent amendment to the Project authorization with respect to hydropower generation.
- B. Again, adjudication is on-going. Nancy is still working with Rita Frasure to fix boundary discrepancies.

3) STAFF UPDATES

- A. Ethan Brosten's last day was the 6th. No plans to replace him just yet unless the perfect candidate applies.
- B. Will work the weed sprayers till the end of the month.

4) OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS & GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- A. Our final insurance premium is \$186,113.55, which is nearly 3 times the rate we paid last year. Still working on getting options to get reduced further. FSID's insurance rates almost tripled as well. FSID is going to have to raise their assessment by \$3.60/acre to cover insurance cost increase.
- B. Need to review and approve Audit proposal for year-end 2022. Since we received over \$750k in Federal funds during fiscal year 2022-2023, we are now required to complete a Single Audit in accordance with 2 CFR 200.500. This can be completed by our current Auditor when they do the standard audit, will cost a little more.

5) GIS MAPPING, PLATS, DATA BASE, CERTIFICATION, & ASSESSMENTS

- A. Nothing new to report on the field computers' interaction with the database.
- B. Need to increase GID's annual assessment to cover the recent insurance debacle as well as other inflationary issues.

6) FARM UNIT OPERATIONS

- A. Nothing new

7) MONTHLY FINANCIALS & 2023 BUDGET

- A. The account receivables for June were \$25,975.
- B. Accounts payable for July totaled \$556,689 for the warrants as well as \$67,085 in salaries comprising two pay periods. Approximately \$363,145 of the costs are related to the Arnold Coulee Project.
- C. We will need to make another draw on the revolving line of credit with our local bank to make payroll this week well as make another installment payment on the turbines at the end of August.
- D. In July, GID received \$50,000 for the Turnbull revenue generated in June. Already received \$12,000 in revenue from Turnbull for May. Revenue down due to slow start in May and withholding money for turbine repairs. July should be good; however August will be much lower.

8) GID VEHICLES & HEAVY EQUIPMENT

- A. The rebuilt original water pump continued to leak so Dave ordered a new rebuilt, replacement water pump. A couple connection issues, wiring, instrumentation issues still remain. Should be finalized and running very soon.
- B. Sold an excess DR pickup truck for \$5,222.
- C. Still getting quotes for new pickup trucks.

9) PEARSON LAWSUIT

- A. As anticipated, Pearson filed an appeal for judicial review with the local District Court. Judge Bonia had to recuse himself due to his experience with the case as a former MACO attorney. Plaintiff is challenging the decision of the HRB appeal board.
- B. Waiting for another Judge to be assigned.

10) WILLOW CREEK FEEDER CANAL MAINTENANCE & LAWSUIT

- A. Sent request to landowners for GID's experts to access their land for inspections.
- B. Scheduling Order Set
 - 1. Discovery Closes – March 29, 2024
 - 2. Trial – November 4, 2024
- C. The next step is to get ready for depositions. I will be the 30(b)(6) witness for GID regarding this lawsuit. This is scheduled for October 16th through the 19th in Great Falls.

11) HYDRO UPDATES

- A. General –
 - 1. Public Service Commissioner, Annie Bukacek, finished her presentation of GID's hydropower efforts and the possibility of getting Gibson Dam on-line in the near future. This presentation can be watched at July 03, 2023

[Commissioner Bukacek Greenfields Irrigation District Presentation - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3MSWqA8-6E) or
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3MSWqA8-6E>

B. Arnold Coulee LOPP –

1. ✓ **LOPP** – The Executed LOPP Agreement has been finalized and is done.
2. **Transmission Design & Construction** – Contractor working. To date, about 4.6 miles of poles have been erected with another 4 miles to go for this segment. The transmission conductor has been or is being pulled on the first 3.6 miles. Will start planting more poles the week of August 21st. The anticipated completion date is December.



3. **Transmission Easements** – Easement efforts continue to be in progress.
 - Still waiting for BLM to evaluate the amended Cultural Resource Study and redo the Environmental approval process. Our BLM case worker has returned from taking July off.
 - Easement plats for easements across State Trust Lands for Arnold Coulee leg are being finalized. We are working on the State's approval.
 - Nothing new regarding the negotiation for compensation to Mr. Morris.
 - The switchyard site will be on State Trust lands 1½ miles west of Jackson's Corner.
 - A lack of easements and ROWs is still an impact on our ability to finalize our INTERCAP Loan.
4. **BLM Site ROW** – GID had to resend the cultural resource expert out to the site because of ground disturbance to BLM access road beyond the requested easement take. Was supposed to be here the 1st week of Aug but now pushed to 2nd week of August. BLM will not finish our ROW application until the transmission line ROW application has been approved.
5. **SREC Interconnection & Transmission Agreements** – Nothing new since the May 26th video conference with representatives of NWE, WAPA, SREC, and GID. **A new meeting is scheduled for August 10th.** NWE is still determining if and how the generated energy will impact them. These impacted questions need to be answered in order to finalize our PPA negotiations. The interconnection agreement is still in SREC's court but is pending these other discussions.
6. **Power Purchase Agreement** – Nothing new on the PPA submitted to NWE on March 9th. Northwestern Energy has acknowledged receipt and is conducting their internal review. They are evaluating the impact of GID's generation.
7. **Design Drawings** – Meet with Ted and looked at the site on Wednesday July 19th. The foundation block design is being reviewed by a structural engineer. I sent my review comments and input. Waiting for finished drawings.
8. **Turbine-Generator Purchase** – Made the August 2nd payment to CHC for \$177,250. This puts us at 90% for the Arnold Coulee site and 45% paid for both sites. The next payment is scheduled for August 31st in the amount of \$198,440 (\$177,250+\$21,190). The \$21,190 site is for adding access hatches to the turbine intake upstream of the turning vanes. Unfortunately, I no longer expect to have the draft tubes installed this summer.
9. **WEEG WaterSmart Grant** – Submitted the last quarterly report in April. We have exhausted the \$2 Million grant allotment as well as satisfied GID's \$2 Million match requirement. Next WEEG reports are due 09/30/23.
10. **INTERCAP Loan** – The GID Board has approved the Bond Resolution for the Loan. However, the Department of Commerce is holding off from processing the loan until all the ROWs have been secured.
11. **Wire, Widgets & Wingdings** – May be purchasing some more equipment from NorVal.
12. **Construction** –Submitted Phase 2 construction drawings to Reclamation for approval. Received review comments and already responded to their comments. The 2nd phase includes the foundation block, installing the draft tubes, and constructing the tailrace channel and the underdrain.

C. Pishkun Inlet Hydro –

1. **Funding** – In progress.

- Working on the preliminary grant administration requirements for the WaterSmart WEEG. (Part of the \$4.3 million grant would address Pishkun Inlet Hydro.)
- Working on the preliminary loan requirements for the \$5.03 million loan guarantee through USBR's Aging Infrastructure Account (AIA) program. Had a progress meeting this afternoon. Things are moving so.....
- Both the WEEG grant and the BIL loan include "Buy America" conditions that I will have to request waivers for the turbine, controllers, penstock, and wire.
- Working on the preliminary grant agreement requirements for the \$125k DNRC grant and \$1.5 million State loan guarantee.

2. **LOPP** – Sent a request to Reclamation to finalize the permitting process for this site. Final LOPP sent to DOI solicitor general for final review. Approval received on Aug. 4th now routing for signature.

D. Johnson Drop –

1. **Funding** –

- WaterSmart WEEG – Part of the \$4.3 million grant would address finishing Johnson Drop.

2. **LOPP** – Need to send a request to Reclamation to initiate the permitting process for this site.

E. A-Drop –

2. **Funding** –

- WaterSmart WEEG – Part of the \$4.3 million grant would address finishing A-Drop

3. **LOPP** – Need to send a request to Reclamation to initiate the permitting process for this site.

F. Gibson Hydro –

1. Received FERC's Termination letter effective 1st week of August but it contained provisions for someone to appeal the decision. So another 30 days before the official TOD.

2. Heard back from the Lt Governor regarding GID's request for State financial assistance for Gibson Dam since the project will have tremendous public benefits. She will be discussing the request in her next policy meeting.

12) GID INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS- Current or Planned

A. Hwy 89 Ditch Crossings

1. Steve is working with the design engineer to reconfigure the ditch crossings as we proposed 2 years ago.

B. Willow Creek Spillway Repair –

1. Nothing new.

C. Sun River Bridge Replacement –

1. Held a Progress Meeting on July 17th to discuss field work, TSL report, and cost estimates. Land ownership/authority issues have arisen between BOR and NFS over the withdrawn land.

2. Also, issues regarding the public use status of the PSC road may be a concern.

3. Inspection of Sun River siphon scheduled for August 22nd after seasonal termination of the PSC.

4. Geotechnical field work scheduled for this Fall.
5. Ribbon cutting ceremony for bridge now planned for Summer of 2026.
- D. SRS 71 Check Replacement and Reregulation, Phase 1–
 1. Rubicon “smart” turnout gate ordered.
 2. Working off the \$125K DNRC grant received to do this work.
 3. Work is scheduled to start this Fall after the water season.
 4. GID was awarded the \$15K DNRC RRGL planning grant that we submitted for Phase II, relocate, and replace SRS main canal check.
 5. Eric is planning on building the replacement structure in the field as a cast-in-place version. He and his crew are reviewing the drawings.
- E. Phase III J-Waste Way Facility, Spring Coulee Headworks –
 1. Nothing new.
 2. GID was awarded a \$15K DNRC RRGL planning grant that we submitted to complete Phase 3. Phase 3 is the confining berms, SCDA, and the re-regulation pond controls.
- F. Tunnel #3 Roof Collapse –
 1. GID was awarded a \$11.6 million loan guarantee through Reclamation’s Aging Infrastructure Account (AIA) funding program. Putting together a scope of work and schedule for the loan.
 2. Already was awarded a \$500k ARPA grant.
 3. Strategy-
 - i. Complete final design and finalize environmental compliance documents.
 - ii. Procure materials and solicit by next summer Contractor.
 - iii. Award contract so contractor is ready to roll when PSC shuts off.
 - iv. 1st Phase of Construction to start August 2024.
 - v. Work off of ARPA funding. Secure and finalize BIL Loan over the next 9 months.
- G. Lower GSC Rehabilitation –
 1. Working off the \$75,000 WaterSmart grant received to help pay for this project.
 2. Cultural Resources has already been completed but has to be amended.
 3. Design is being completed. Work is scheduled to start this Fall after the water season.
 4. Reviewing the plans. Pipe has been ordered. Will be here next week.

13) TITLE TRANSFER

- A. Received the draft MOU and agreement from USBR to move forward. Have not had a chance to review.

14) MISC GID O&M PROJECTS

- A. Eric will provide a verbal update if he’s here.
- B. One of our outside sheds catastrophically collapsed. As a safety precaution, this necessitated the need to knock the remainder down and haul it off.



15) GID GRAZING LEASE PROGRAM

- A. Range Rider Wilson has resumed checking on pastures. Ron can give an update if he is present.

16) DISTRICT MODERIZATION EFFORT WITH FCA

- A. Now having weekly meetings with FCA. Discussing next steps.
- B. WWC is being sought to assist with the WBM and SIP.
- C. Working on a pressurized district study for the Ashuelot Bench with a re-regulation pond above the first drop. WWC took flow measurements last month.
- D. I need help with the water balance model and (System Improvements Plan) SIP.

17) MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Still no update on the historic Muddy Creek gravel pit closeout. GID received a notification of violation from the MT DEQ. Sent an update to DEQ.
- B. Received another violation notice from DEQ regarding the Kasper Pit just north of Town. Submitted another request for a permit.

18) SHORT-TERM TO DO LIST – AUGUST

- Continue to advance efforts to secure Transmission & Wheeling Agreement with SREC.
- Get Merle to finalize an agreement to an alignment on his ground.
- Push BLM and SREC to finalize the necessary easements on State and Federal land.
- Address the historic gravel pit issues.
- Need to find ways to reduce our insurance costs.

19) LONG-TERM TO DO LIST – SEPTEMBER & ON

- Order pipe for tailrace channel underpass. (PENDING BLM ROW)
- Solicit for roller gates, transition pipe and entrance collar for intake structure.

- -Get BLM approval for site easement and transmission line easement.
- Get State of MT-DNRC approval for transmission line easement.
- Develop a 5yr/10yr Strategic Plan (Conservation & Management Plan)
- Develop a Systems Improvement Plan (SIP) with FCA

NEXT GID BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 12th @ 6PM

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