



AGENDA FOR: Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday November 14th 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: October 10th Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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

PARTIES PRESENTING ISSUES:

CONTRACTS TO EXECUTE: Bond Resolution to be Signed for the \$1.5M State Loan and Board Resolution to be Signed to pursue a WaterSMART Grant, tabled from last month. Water Rights Resolution to include Farm Unit 599.1 inside GID boundaries.

MANAGER'S REPORT

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1) Board FYI for new pivot installation proposal by Mitch Konen, handout provided.
- 2) Water User, Keith Giles, is requesting that the Board allow Fall Grazing on his two GID pastures, #21 and #24. No cattle have been on either pasture since November 2022.
- 3) Range Rider Wilson to give update on inspection of and recommendation for Pasture #11, Tom McInerney

PUBLIC COMMENT

- SRWG, Tracy Wendt, handout provided.

Greenfields

IRRIGATION DISTRICT

On Tuesday November 14th, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. the Greenfields Irrigation District (GID) held its Monthly Board meeting, directly following a Special Meeting with GID's Attorney representing the District in the WCFC Lawsuit. 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 Advisory Board Member, Chris Ostberg and GID Range Rider, Ron Wilson were both present. Tracy Wendt with SRWG was not present.

The meeting was called to order by President Brunner at 6:30 P.M.

Approve Meeting Minutes and Monthly Warrants: The first item of business was to approve the minutes from the October 10th Regular Meeting and Special Meeting. 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. The Warrants List was then reviewed. There was a question about the warrant to Kelley Connect, whether it was with our current provider, or if it was payment to secure the new contract with the alternate company GID will be working with after the 1st of the year. Manager Juel explained that the warrant to Motion & Flow Control was a down payment for HPU for the Arnold Coulee Hydro project and O&M Foreman clarified that the warrant to Severinsen Irrigation was for pipe to do a job for one of GID's water users and would be reimbursed upon completion of the work done. Commissioner Brosten moved to approve the warrants and Commissioner Brady seconded. All were in favor and the warrants were approved.

Parties Presenting Issues: None.

Contacts to Execute: Bond Resolution to be Signed for the \$1.5M State Loan and Board Resolution to be Signed to pursue a WaterSMART Grant, tabled once again. Water Rights Resolution to include Farm Unit 599.1 inside GID boundaries to be Signed by the Board. GIS Mapping Specialist provided a handout for the Board to review, but nothing was received back from GID's Water Rights Attorney yet, so this Resolution was also tabled.

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

Reservoir and River Operations: See M.R. for full details. Reservoir levels, as well as inflows are roughly 50 to 75% of normal. Snowpack level readings are below normal. Seepage loss is quite a bit lower than normal. The National Climate Prediction Center is now predicting well-above normal temps and well-below normal precipitation for November through January, with February to April predicted to be above normal temps and below normal precipitation. In summary: We had problems with the WCFC after starting up in early October, as repairs were needed to the upper man-made section, but it was restarted on November 7th.

Water Rights: Nothing new to report.

GID Staff Updates: Nothing new to report. We will need to hire 2 new ditch riders for next season, as well as possibly hiring a couple of weed sprayers. Eric and Erling will begin conducting employee evaluations. 3 employees were found to have accrued excess vacation hours over the maximum allowed, so they will all be taking some time off before the 1st of the year.

Office Improvements & General Administration: We are still working with GID's Auditor to conclude the audit for the fiscal year ending on 10/31/22, as well as the single audit required for this time period. A draft

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

Agenda:

- 1) Board FYI that there is a proposed new pivot installation for Mitch Konen, handout provided. No Board approval is needed.
- 2) Grazing Pasture Lessee, Keith Giles, is requesting Fall grazing, as is normal, for pastures #21 and #24. Commissioner Gulick moved to approve the request and Commissioner Brady seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.
- 3) Range Rider Wilson then gives the Board an update on the condition of pasture #11, Tom McInerney, after his Fall review. There is an overgrowth of wire weed, due to the overgrazing of the native grasses present. Teton County Weed Specialist suggested testing spray to extinguish the spread of this and other winter weeds from said pasture. The Board discussed options and further details briefly. President Brunner and Commissioner Brosten are to go review the pasture before the next meeting to give their assessment and suggestions.

Public Comment: Tracy Wendt with SRWG was not present, but would like to once again, thank the Board for their annual Fall contribution given for the upcoming year's budget. Water Master Lettengarver had put together a spreadsheet showing water diverted for each division, versus the water used, which shows approximately a 40% loss districtwide.

Commissioner Brosten moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Brady seconded. All in favor and the meeting is adjourned at 7:50 P.M.



Board President



Board Secretary

Board Action Recap:

- Board approved the request for Fall grazing on pastures # 21 and #24, Keith Giles

GREENFIELDS IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Monthly Warrant List

October 2023

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
Oct 23				
10/04/2023	35606	Michelle Lauer-	cleaning supplies	-19.98
10/04/2023	35637	TB - MPERA	retirement	-5,571.73
10/04/2023	35638	TB - 941	81-6001490	-7,005.44
10/04/2023	35639	TB - SWT	4052635002wth	-1,431.00
10/10/2023	35640	Western Water Consultants, Inc.	Lower GSC and SRS Re-Reg.	-1,998.00
10/10/2023	35641	Pacific Steel	SRS Re-Regulation Phase I	-6,450.00
10/10/2023	35642	Pacific Steel	screened sumps and Sonny F. pipe	-9,603.00
10/10/2023	35643	Visa	phone, repairs & supplies, printer paper	-696.52
10/10/2023	35644	True Value	SHOP REPAIRS AND SUPPLIES	-38.27
10/10/2023	35645	R&L Eagle Grocery	office and shop	-88.51
10/10/2023	35646	Republic Services	utilities	-143.74
10/10/2023	35647	3 Rivers Communication	phone	-623.60
10/10/2023	35648	Choteau Acantha	newspaper subscription	-40.00
10/10/2023	35649	Mills Motor, Co.	#31 truck	-270.43
10/10/2023	35650	Gary Kasper & Company, Inc.	accounting-Sept.	-1,200.00
10/10/2023	35651	Greenfields Irrigation District	VOID: VOIDED CHECK GJE, RGJE creat	0.00
10/18/2023	35652	TB - MPERA	retirement	-5,685.30
10/18/2023	35653	TB - 941	81-6001490	-7,099.56
10/18/2023	35654	TB - SWT	4052635002wth	-1,462.00
10/18/2023	35655	TB - UI Tax	031 1512	-896.64
10/18/2023	35656	Michelle Lauer-	cleaning supplies	-3.48
10/19/2023	35674	Rubicon Systems America, Inc	VOID: SRS HEADWORKS GJE, RGJE cr	0.00
10/24/2023	35675	Great Falls Chamber of Commerce	membership dues	-50.00
10/31/2023	35698	Michelle Lauer-	cleaning supplies	-19.98
10/31/2023	35705	Aflac	insurance	-106.20
10/31/2023	35706	MT Teamsters Employers Trust	health insurance	-20,280.00
10/31/2023	35707	Teamster's Local #2	union dues	-910.00
10/31/2023	35708	Western Conference of Teamsters Pensk pension		-2,148.50
10/31/2023	35709	BlueCross BlueShield of Montana	247191	-1,658.33
10/31/2023	35710	3 Rivers Communication	phone and internet	-623.60
10/31/2023	35711	Allegra Print & Imaging	office supply	-282.87
10/31/2023	35712	B.A. Fischer Sales Co., LLC	gates, postage, SRS Check	-4,792.92

Recap of October 2023 warrants:
Regular warrants
October 2023 payroll
Total

\$159,295.33
\$ 47,862.66
\$207,157.99

Approved by  _____
President Date

Submitted by _____
Bookkeeper Date

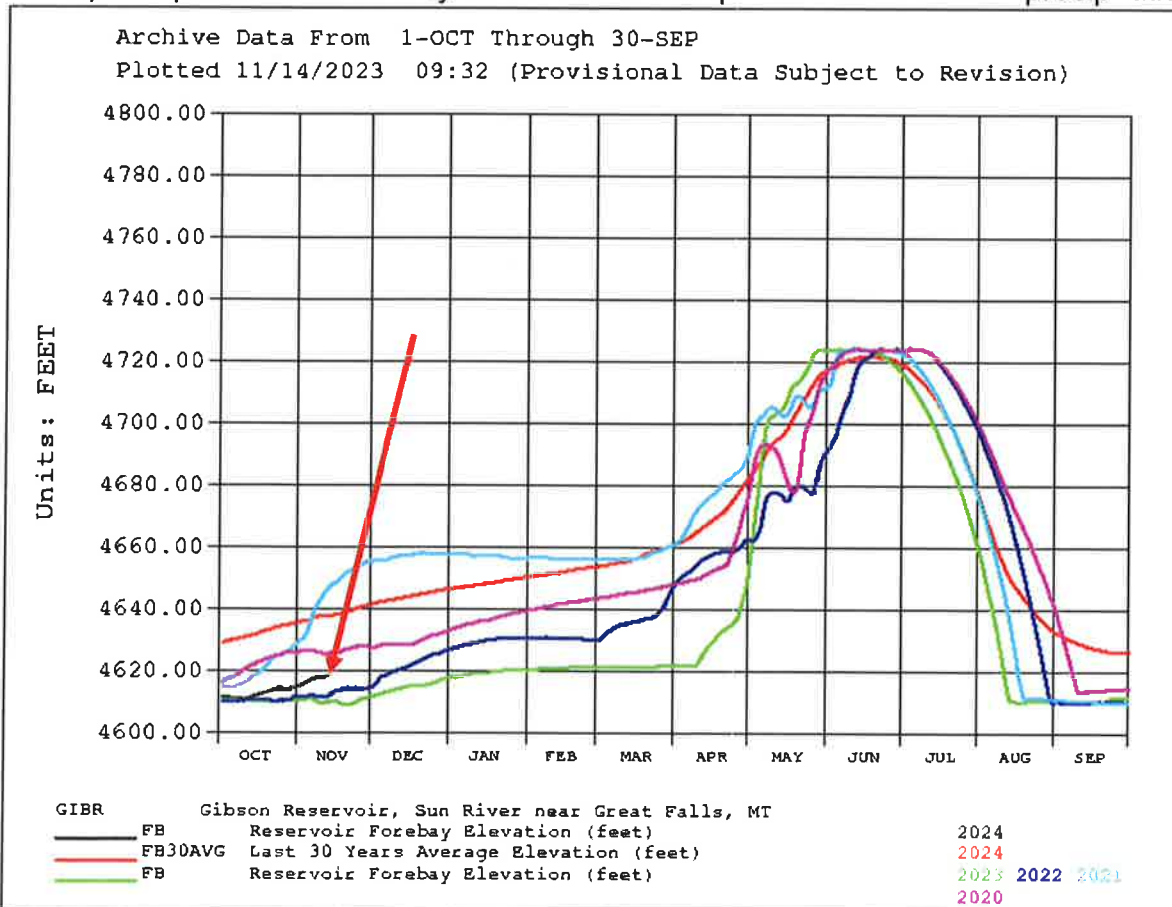
To: GID Commissioners
Jenny Gulick, GID Board Secretary

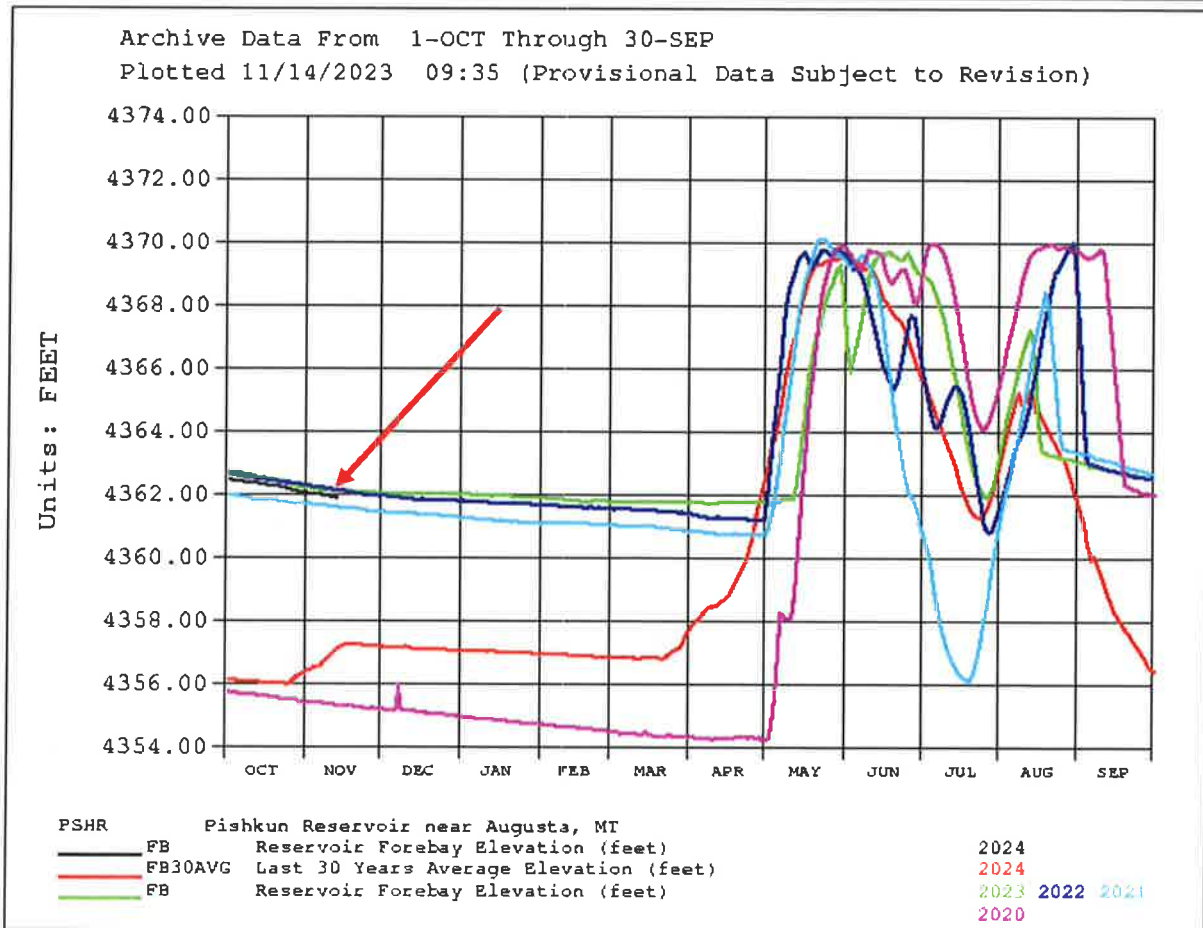
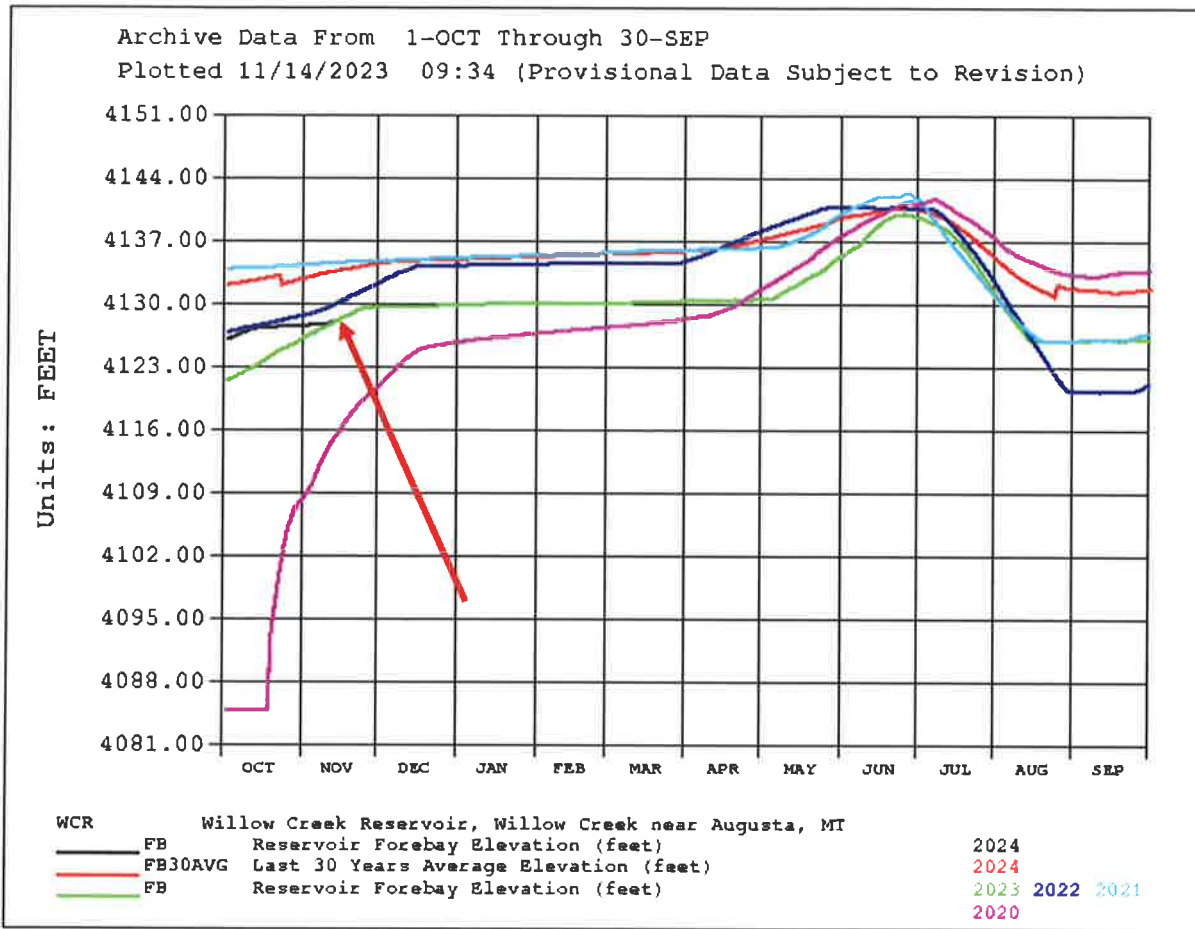
From: Erling A. Juel, P.E., District Manager

Subject: Manager's Report 11/14/23

1) RESERVOIR & RIVER OPERATIONS AND PROJECTIONS AS OF 11/13/23

- A. Reservoir operations and levels over the last 5 days were:
- Gibson Res: 8,500 Ac-ft, 8.6% Full & 46.6% of Normal
 - Gibson Inflows: varying from 160 to 190 cfs, 65% to 75% of Normal.
 - Gibson Outflows: +/-170 cfs,
 - Willow Creek Reservoir: 14,900 Ac-ft, 46.8% Full, 72% of Normal
 - Willow Creek Inflows: +/-75 cfs
- B. Snowpack Levels readings are:
- Badger Pass Snow-Water Eq. = 2.1"
 - Mount Lockhart Snow-Water Eq. = 0.8"
 - Waldron Snow-Water Eq. = 0.0"
 - Wood Creek Snow-Water Eq. = 0.0"
 - Gibson Reservoir Watershed = 0.4", 37% of normal per (USBR)
- C. The National Climate Prediction Center is now predicting well-above normal temps and well-below normal precipitation for November through January. February to April is predicted to be only above normal temps and below normal precipitation.





6) FARM UNIT OPERATIONS

A. Nothing new to report this month.

7) MONTHLY FINANCIALS & 2023 BUDGET

A. The account receivables for October were \$13,419.

B. Accounts payable for October totaled \$159,295 for the warrants as well as \$47,863 in salaries comprising two pay periods.

C. Cash flow continues to be a concern given the slow progress on the BLM approvals. Have summarized our 2023 finances and prepared a preliminary Budget for 2024 for Board review and comment.

8) GID VEHICLES & HEAVY EQUIPMENT

A. Nothing new.

B. Eric is trying get quotes for new or used pickup trucks.

9) PEARSON LAWSUIT

A. Scheduling Order Set

1. Pearson's Opening Brief – Sept 29th, 2023 (Received)
2. GID's Answering Brief – Nov. 2nd, 2023. (Received)
3. Pearson's Reply Brief – ????, 2023
4. Trial – Jan. 18th, 2024 in Butte?

10) WILLOW CREEK FEEDER CANAL MAINTENANCE & LAWSUIT

A. Scheduling Order Set

1. Defendants' Expert Disclosure Deadlines
 - Liabilities – December 19th, 2023
 - Damages – January 19th, 2024
2. Plaintiff's Expert Disclosure Deadline – 12/19/23
3. Discovery Closes – March 29, 2024
4. Trial – November 4, 2024

B. Attorney to provide an update before our next Board meeting.

C. Gave GID's 30b (6) deposition on October 17th. USBR gave theirs on the 16th and FSID gave theirs on the 18th.

D. GID's experts, lawyers, and couple of GID reps (Pres. Brunner and O&M Foreman Mayer) met on-site on Oct. 19th.

E. A follow-up conference call with the lawyers and experts was held on Monday Nov. 13th at 2 pm. Eric and I participated.

11) HYDRO UPDATES

A. General –

1. Nothing new on NWE's intent to update the QF-1 tariffs i.e., the avoided cost rate structure. Again, this will have a huge impact on Pishkun Inlet and other potential sites.

B. Arnold Coulee LOPP –

1. ✓ **LOPP** – The Executed LOPP Agreement has been finalized and is done.
2. **Transmission Design & Construction** – To date on the latest segment...
 - 3.8 miles (Segment #4) is done.
 - north-south 1 mile of Segment #5 is done. (See attachment)

- The lack of easements and ROWs is still impacting GID's ability to finalize our INTERCAP Loan.
4. **BLM Site ROW** – BLM has everything they need to process the ROW requests. BLM is reviewing GID's and SREC's ROW request concurrently. Will not grant one approval independently without the other.
 5. **SREC Interconnection & Transmission Agreements** – Nothing new regarding this work. Waiting for easements before finalizing Agreements.
 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.
 7. **Design Drawings** – The foundation block design was reviewed by Reclamation, and they returned their comments and suggestions. Waiting for finished drawings. Up to get updated drawings soon.
 8. ✓ **Turbine-Generator Purchase** – Done.
 9. **WEEG WaterSmart Grant** – Nothing new. Next quarterly report is due on 03/31/24. The financial portion of the grant is basically done as we have exhausted the \$2 Million grant allotment as well as satisfied GID's \$2 Million match requirement.
 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 easements/ROWs have been secured.
 11. **Construction** – Construction is pending approval of a ROW from the BLM.

C. Pishkun Inlet Hydro –

1. **Funding** – Finalization is 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.) This requires a Special Audit.
 - Working on the preliminary loan requirements for the \$5.03 million BIL loan guarantee through USBR's Aging Infrastructure Account (AIA) program. Things are moving slowly, and the environmental compliance documents control the process.
 - Both the WEEG grant and the BIL loan include "Buy America" conditions that have submitted a draft BABA exemption request waiver addressing the hydropower machine for Reclamation's review.
 - Working on the preliminary grant agreement requirements for the \$125k DNRC grant and the \$1.5 million State loan guarantee. Next meeting with the State DNRC reps will be December 6th.
2. **LOPP** – Sent a request and a check for \$10,000 to Reclamation to initiate the Final LOPP for this site. This will kick start the NEPA and NHPA process.
3. **Transmission Easements** – Easement efforts will follow a similar path to the Arnold Coulee site. The cultural resource evaluation and environmental studies have already been completed already.
 - A small piece of BLM land will get approved with the Arnold Coulee ROW request.
 - Easements across State Trust Lands for the Pishkun Inlet will require easement plats. The lessee will also have to agree to those sections that they lease from the State.

- BOR is pursuing separate action to remove existing bridge, when successful, FHWA will add back into contract.
 - 70% Milestone- April 2024
 - 90% Milestone- July 2025
 - Advertisement November 2025
 - Construction 2026 and 2027
3. NEPA
- ✓ **DONE** - Cooperating Agency review of EA (30 days): October 9 - November 10, 2023
 - RPA edits to EA: November 13 to 30, 2023
 - Legal review (30 days): December 2023
 - Public Review (30 days): January 2024
 - Public Meeting: Date TBD
 - RPA final revisions: No later than Mid Feb 2024
 - Final EA for signature: End of Feb 2024
4. A meeting is scheduled in Helena on December 5th to discuss the issue of withdrawn land and who is the ultimate authority.

D. SRS 71 Check Replacement and Reregulation, Phase 1–

1. **Everything is done except for installation of the new Smart gate and hooking the electrical backup to the existing check.**
2. Working off the \$125K DNRC grant received to do this work.



14) MISC GID O&M PROJECTS

- A. Eric will provide a verbal update if he's here.

15) GID GRAZING LEASE PROGRAM

- A. Need to make a follow-up assessment of Pasture # 11. Range Rider Wilson has put together a recommendation that needs Board review.

16) DISTRICT MODERIZATION EFFORT WITH FCA

- A. Continuing with weekly meetings with FCA.
B. Working on a pressurized district study for the Ashuelot Bench with a re-regulation pond above the first drop. Steve is working on summarizing the necessary flow numbers to help with the analysis.
C. Moving forward with the 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 – NOVEMBER

- Need to find ways to reduce our insurance costs.
- Finish up the 2021-2022 annual audit and the special audit.
- Submit PPA to NWE for Pishkun Inlet.
- Get BLM and MT DNRC approvals for site easement and transmission line easements for the Arnold Coulee site.
- With easements, finalize the DOC-BOI INTERCAP Loan.
- Make progress on the Lower GSC ditch to pipeline project.

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

- Order pipe for tailrace channel underpass. (PENDING BLM ROW)
- Develop a 5yr/10yr Strategic Plan (Conservation & Management Plan)
- Develop a Systems Improvement Plan (SIP) with FCA

NEXT GID BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 12th @ 6PM

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Konen, Mitch FU 188, 189 Proposed New Pivot				
FU	Physical Size	Assessed	Current Irr	Proposed Irr
188	153.29	127.45	115.50	116.27
189	80.00	39.48	31.54	34.75
Total	233.29	166.93	147.04	151.02