

# Greenfields

## IRRIGATION DISTRICT

On Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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 Eric Mayer, Cory Copenhaver and Steve Lettengarver. GID Range Rider Ron Wilson was there also, as well as Tracy Wendt with SRWG, Jason Hahn with BOR and Water User Mike Morris.

The meeting was called to order by President Brunner at 6:02 P.M.

**Approve Meeting Minutes and Monthly Warrants:** The next item of business was to approve the minutes from the August 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting and Executive Session Meeting Minutes. There were no discrepancies found in the Regular Minutes and Commissioner Brosten made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Brady seconded the motion. All in favor and the Regular Minutes were approved. The Board then reviewed the Executive Session Minutes and there were also no discrepancies, so Commissioner Brosten made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Gulick seconding the motion. All in favor and the motion carried. There were no discrepancies found in the Special Meeting Minutes from August 20<sup>th</sup>, nor the WCFC Lawsuit Mediation Minutes from August 27<sup>th</sup>, so Commissioner Brosten moved to approve them with Commissioner Gulick seconding the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved. The August Warrants List was then reviewed with brief discussion on the various warrants for hydro expenses and what those expenses were. Vice President Norris made a motion to approve the warrants with Commissioner Brady seconding the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Parties Presenting Issues:** None.

**Contacts to Execute:** President Brunner then signed the Vendor Invoice from WWC, as well as the lease agreement with Sun Canyon Lodge. The revised contract to engage in services with Gary Deschenes had not been received yet, and so it was tabled until next month's meeting.

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

**Reservoir and River Operations:** See M.R. for full details. Reservoir and River Operations: Inflows to Gibson are reported to be extremely low because one of the shaft encoders is down. Willow Creek and Pishkun are experiencing normal inflows for this time of year. The National Climate Prediction is now predicting above normal temps and normal precipitation for September through November, with December through February predicted to be below normal temps and above normal precipitation.

**Water Rights:** Nancy is reviewing the draft adjudication for Basin 41K.

**GID Staff Updates:** The Union Labor contract negotiations will begin next month. The Water Master has indicated his desire to either retire completely or at least not work 7 days a week, so we may look at restructuring a position for him.

**Office Improvements & General Administration:** Office Manager Gulick provided a brief verbal update on the progress of replacing the server. Two new desk computers will need to be replaced later this Fall, but we will continue holding off on the purchase of a new copier.

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

**Farm Unit Operations:** There is a new pivot installation FYI provided for the Board. Nancy reported that there have been 117 new pivots put in over the past 5 years.

**Monthly Financials & 2024 Budget:** See the M.R. for further details. We received another payment from Turnbull of \$55,000, which will likely be the last one received this year. To date this year, we have received \$105,000.

**GID Vehicles & Heavy Equipment:** See the M.R. for details regarding our continued need to replace our lowboy transport trailer, as well as many pieces of equipment requiring maintenance.

**Willow Creek Feeder Canal Maintenance & Lawsuit:** The Mediation/Settlement Conference was held on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 9 A.M. at the Federal Courthouse, but yielded no settlement. Plaintiffs appear to be holding out to see just how much MACO is willing to pay. Our attorneys are preparing and finalizing the pre-trial orders and prepping our witnesses. The trial is set for November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Hydro Updates:** General: Regarding GID's fight with NWE's intent to update the QF-1 Tariffs: The hearing is scheduled for October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, with prep on the 28<sup>th</sup> in Helena at the PSC building. Arnold Coulee LOPP: Construction continues on the Arnold Coulee transmission leg, see the updated map provided. Power Purchase Agreement: Manager Juel had a call with NWE on 9/4 where nothing was decided. He has a conference call with WAPA scheduled for tomorrow morning. Tying rebar & 1<sup>st</sup> concrete pour: We are behind schedule but will hopefully begin next week. Pishkun Inlet: NEPA is still an issue. We will need to amend the cultural resources study because of alignment shifts. BOR is now requesting a wetlands survey. Manager Juel will review the draft engineering drawing provided by Sorenson. Nothing new on the other sites. See the M.R. for further details.

**GID Infrastructure Projects:** For Current and Planned, see the M.R. Sun River Bridge Replacement: Final Design & Advertise on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and open bids on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Tunnel #3 Roof Collapse: Pre-construction meeting will be held tomorrow at 10 A.M. The contractor will be on-site to begin work in a couple of weeks. Pishkun Outlet Replacement: We submitted an application to BOR for financial assistance regarding extraordinary maintenance work through the Aging Infrastructure Account.

**Title Transfer:** Nothing new to report

**GID O&M Projects:** O&M Foreman Mayer provided a very brief update.

**GID Grazing Lease Program:** Pasture Lessee, Marty Klinker, sent a letter to the Board to ask for forgiveness in violating the lease agreement terms and that he be allowed to continue sub-leasing 4 out of his 5 pastures for the continuance of the remaining terms. This will be discussed and approved during the agenda portion of the meeting.

**FCA Efforts to Modernize GID Infrastructure:** Manager Juel will go to Butte on October 16<sup>th</sup> to support our Groundwater Study proposal with the MBMG.

**Miscellaneous:** See M.R. for details.

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


**Agenda:**

1. Board to review and approve request from Lessee, Keith Giles, to fall graze his pasture for November and December. No activity on the pasture thus far this year. Commissioner Brady moved to approve the request and Vice President Norris seconded. All in favor and the motion carried.
2. The Board to review and approve the request from Lessee, Marty Klinker, to sublease grazing pastures #16, 18, 73 & 78 to Layton Senef, see handout provided. Marty is requesting to continue subleasing through the end of his lease terms. The only requirement is that if anything changes with his lease agreement with Senef, he must report it to the Board for re-evaluation. Commissioner Brosten made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Brady seconded. All in favor and the motion carried.
3. A new pivot installation FYI for Pat Brosten was provided to the Board. Eric, Steve and Nancy have yet to review the plans to ensure there will be no issues.

**Public Comment:** Tracy with SRWG gave a brief update with a handout provided. She informed the Board that the USGS has removed the Simms gauge from the list of potentially discontinued funding measurement sites. There is a Missouri Watershed Coordination Council tour next Thursday and Friday. She then went on to request GID's Fall partnership support contribution of \$4,000 and thanked them for their continued support.

Commissioner Brosten moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Brady seconded. All in favor and the meeting is adjourned at 7:11 P.M.

  
Board President

  
Board Secretary

**Board Action Recap:**

- The Board approved Keith Giles' request to Fall Graze.
- The Board approved Marty Klinker's request to sublease 4 of his 5 pastures.





**AGENDA FOR:** Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 10th 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:** August 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Meeting Minutes, August 20<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting Minutes and August 27<sup>th</sup> WCFC Lawsuit Mediation Minutes

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

**PARTIES PRESENTING:** None.

**CONTRACTS TO EXECUTE:** Contract to be Signed for D&A Associates by the GID Board

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

- 1) The Board to review and approve the request made by Lessee, Keith Giles, to fall graze his pasture for November and December. No activity on the pasture thus far this year.
- 2) The Board to review and approve request from Lessee, Marty Klinker, to sublease grazing pastures #16, 18, 73 & 78 to Layton Senef, see handout.
- 3) Board FYI of a new pivot installation, Pat Brosten. A handout has been provided.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- SRWG, Tracy Wendt, handout provided.



**GREENFIELDS IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
**Monthly Warrant List**  
**August 2024**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Num</b>	<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Amount</b>
08/11/2024	36707	TB - 941	11,077.48
08/07/2024	36708	TB - SWT	1,310.00
08/07/2024	36709	TB - MPERA	7,653.11
08/14/2024	36710	Wyatt Awtrey	40.00
08/14/2024	36711	Shad Beck.	40.00
08/14/2024	36712	Jenny Gulick	40.00
08/14/2024	36713	Brad Hanson	40.00
08/14/2024	36714	Richard Hart	40.00
08/14/2024	36715	Chaz Keller-	40.00
08/14/2024	36716	Ernest Kietzman	40.00
08/14/2024	36717	Steve Lettengarver	40.00
08/14/2024	36718	Tony May	40.00
08/14/2024	36719	Scott Neckstad.	40.00
08/07/2024	36724	TB - MPERA	115.03
08/12/2024	36756	Computers by Sue	135.00
08/13/2024	36776	Kelley Create	1,074.66
08/19/2024	36777	Sun River Electric, Co-Op	816.55
08/19/2024	36778	Frontier Family Practice	183.00
08/19/2024	36779	NorthWestern Energy	394.83
08/20/2024	36780	Jenny Gulick	200.00
08/21/2024	36781	Jon's Automotive	793.37
08/07/2024	36811	Uda Law Firm	1,507.50
08/07/2024	36812	Uda Law Firm	2,211.20
08/21/2024	36832	TB-941	9,599.44
08/21/2024	36834	TB - MPERA	6,857.76
08/21/2024	36835	TB - SWT	876.00
08/22/2024	36836	Western Water Consultants, Inc.	12,604.50
08/22/2024	36837	Western Water Consultants, Inc.	15,000.00
08/26/2024	36839	Shumaker Trucking & Excavating, Inc	123,846.60
08/31/2024	36863	Aflac	106.20
08/31/2024	36864	Apgar Engineering, PLLC	21,069.00
08/31/2024	36865	Canadian Hydro.Com	198,440.00
08/31/2024	36866	Choteau Ace	218.86
08/31/2024	36867	DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	48,996.22
08/31/2024	36868	Fastenal Company	35.77

08/31/2024	36869	Gary Kasper & Company, Inc.	1,251.00
08/31/2024	36870	General Distributing Co	33.42
08/31/2024	36871	Great Falls Redi-Mix Inc	13,049.41
08/31/2024	36872	K's Auto Parts	39.80
08/31/2024	36873	K's Auto Parts - Choteau	479.16
08/31/2024	36874	Macon Supply, Inc	280.00
08/31/2024	36875	MCI	70.97
08/31/2024	36876	Motion & Flow Control Products, Inc.	22,792.98
08/31/2024	36877	Mountain View Co-Op	7,494.00
08/31/2024	36878	MT Teamsters Employers Trust	23,632.00
08/31/2024	36879	National Laundry	65.40
08/31/2024	36880	Normont Equipment	148.20
08/31/2024	36881	North 40	140.96
08/31/2024	36882	Pacific Steel	10,223.14
08/31/2024	36883	R&L Eagle Grocery	98.00
08/31/2024	36884	Riverside Inc.	56,482.00
08/31/2024	36885	Rubicon Systems America, Inc	2,260.00
08/31/2024	36886	Six Robblees' Inc.	104.58
08/31/2024	36887	Sun River Electric, Co-Op	73,353.62
08/31/2024	36888	Town of Fairfield	141.00
08/31/2024	36889	Tractor & Equipment, Co	988.03
08/31/2024	36890	True Value	40.67
08/31/2024	36891	Uda Law Firm	10,521.25
08/31/2024	36892	Victory Insurance Company	2,571.00
08/31/2024	36893	Visa	681.99
08/31/2024	36894	Pension	1,234.00
08/31/2024	36895	Western Water Consultants, Inc.	2,200.00
		TOTAL WARRANTS	<u>695,898.66</u>
		PAYROLL 1	35,733.39
		PAYROLL 2	31,451.52
		TOTAL WARRANTS	<u><u>763,083.57</u></u>

# GREENFIELDS IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## Profit and Loss

November 2023 - August 2024

	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>	
1 OPERATING REVENUE	
310.1 Assessments - O&M	2,705,202.07
311.1 Penalties & Interest - O&M	7,248.70
314.1 Sales of Materials & Services	157,577.09
316.2 Grazing Income	164,032.01
317.1 Finance Charge on Acc Rec	234.44
318.1 Capital Credit Refunds	2,900.03
324 Turnbull Hydro Distributions	105,000.00
327.1 Patronage Dividends	3,211.68
337.1 Miscellaneous Other Income	28.16
<b>Total 1 OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>3,145,434.18</b>
321.7 Pishkun Watersmart Grant	354,500.00
332.1 Proceeds from Sale of Assets	11,251.00
333.1 Boots & Shovels Book Sales	180.00
336.6 Willowcreek Spillway Grant	1,177,472.86
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$4,688,838.04</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$4,688,838.04</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
4 OPERATING EXPENSES	
6 GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	
530.1 Auditing	12,000.00
535.1 Election/Annual Meeting Expense	3,500.00
538.1 Insurance & Bonding	224,088.93
540.1 Legal Counseling	65,930.67
546.1 Office Maintenance & Supply	9,101.46
547.1 Computer Maintenance & Supply	20,071.79
548.1 Petty Cash Reimbursements	584.13
549.1 Postage	2,219.35
553.1 Travel, Meeting & Training	1,947.83
560.1 Utilities - Building & Grounds	17,449.18
561.1 Utilities - Pumping Plants	7,987.04
565.1 Telephone	8,381.96
570.1 Water & Misc Organization Dues	6,824.00
570.2 Sun River Watershed Group	9,100.00
589.1 Miscellaneous General Expense	9,782.80
590.1 Scholarship Expense	1,500.00
591.1 Interest Expense	30,203.09
<b>Total 6 GENERAL &amp; ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>430,672.23</b>

# GREENFIELDS IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## Profit and Loss

November 2023 - August 2024

	TOTAL
<b>7 EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS</b>	
610.1 Gasoline	35,732.84
611.1 Diesel Fuel	56,946.00
613.1 Grease, Oil & Propane	7,625.70
614.1 Tires	31,930.50
615.1 Repairs & Supplies	59,595.73
616.1 Shop Supplies	13,765.72
617.1 Equipment Rentals	216.00
<b>Total 7 EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>205,812.49</b>
<b>8 STORES</b>	
651.1 Cement	5,565.00
655.1 Pipe	30,626.00
656.1 Rebar	9,953.60
657.1 Steel	9,960.48
658.1 Weed Control Operations	4,402.70
659.1 Welding Supplies	1,461.96
660.1 Misc Stores - Inventory	76.61
661.1 Gates	7,129.38
<b>Total 8 STORES</b>	<b>69,175.73</b>
<b>9 CONTRACTED SERVICES</b>	
710.1 Sand/Gravel/Rock	3,610.81
711.1 Ready Mix Concrete	3,049.40
712.1 Accounting	12,383.00
718.1 Other Misc Contracted Service	6,027.53
728.1 Arnold Coulee Project	1,462,970.18
736.1 Spring Coulee Headworks	250.00
737.1 SRS Check & Canal Regulation	9,859.29
743.1 Tunnel #3 Repairs	30,267.90
744.1 Pishkun Inlet	416,029.52
745.1 Lower GSC Pipeline	12,373.25
746.1 MC 41 HEADWORKS	285.00
748.1 Willow Creek Spillway IRRM	123,846.60
749.1 J-Wasteway Modernization	15,000.00
<b>Total 9 CONTRACTED SERVICES</b>	<b>2,095,952.48</b>
<b>Total 4 OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,801,612.93</b>
66910 Bank Service Charges	190.00
Payroll Expenses	
Company Contributions	
Health Insurance	223,366.82
Retirement	78,494.38
<b>Total Company Contributions</b>	<b>301,861.20</b>
Taxes	71,058.88

# GREENFIELDS IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## Profit and Loss

November 2023 - August 2024

	TOTAL
Wages	852,072.88
Workers Compensation	27,177.00
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>1,252,169.96</b>
Reimbursements	1,684.44
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,055,657.33</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$633,180.71
Other Income	
2.1 NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)	
315.1 Interest Earned on Investments	1,941.75
<b>Total 2.1 NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)</b>	<b>1,941.75</b>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$1,941.75</b>
Other Expenses	
619.1 Asset Purchases	18,200.00
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$18,200.00</b>
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -16,258.25
NET INCOME	\$616,922.46



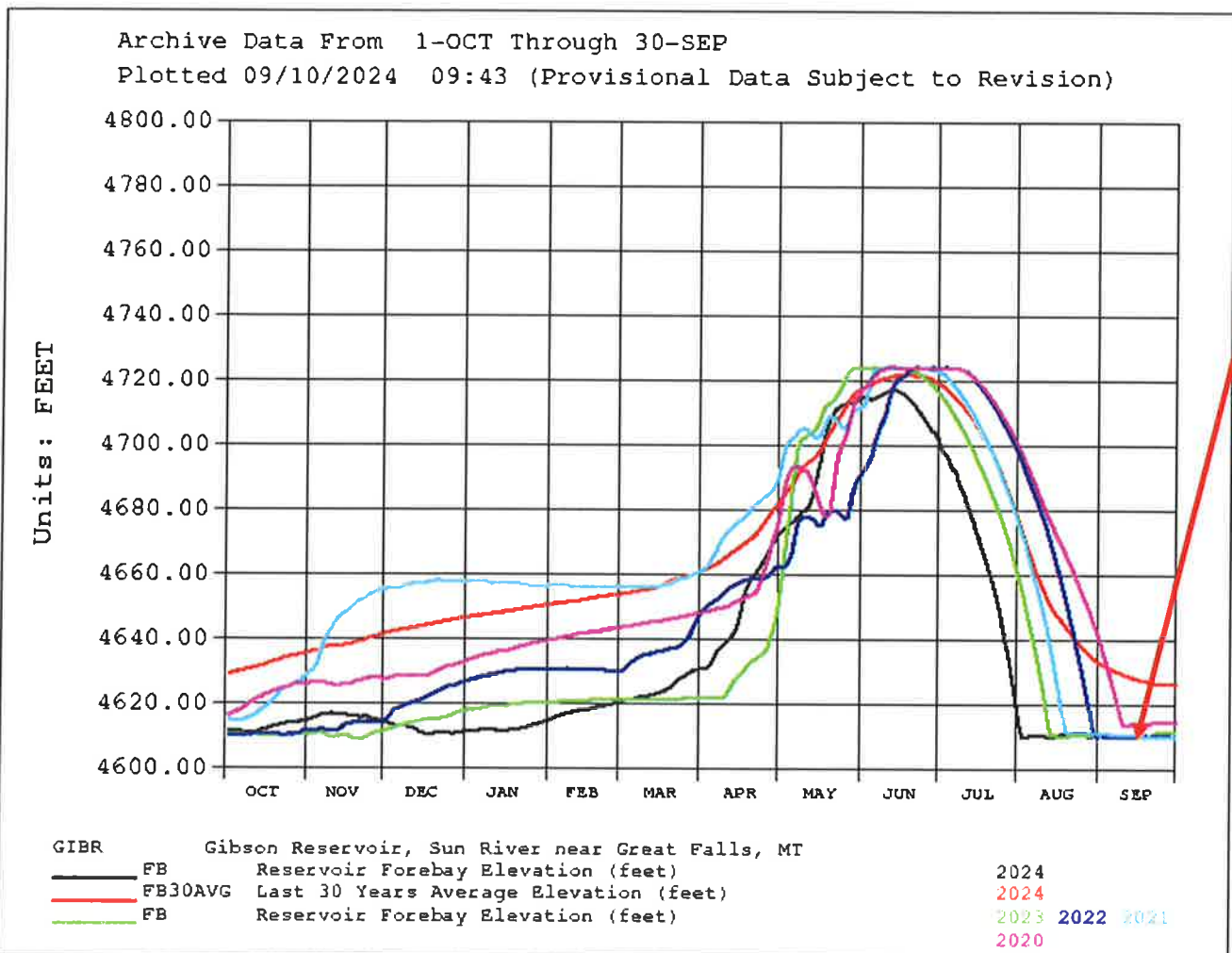
To: GID Commissioners  
Jenny Gulick, GID Board Secretary

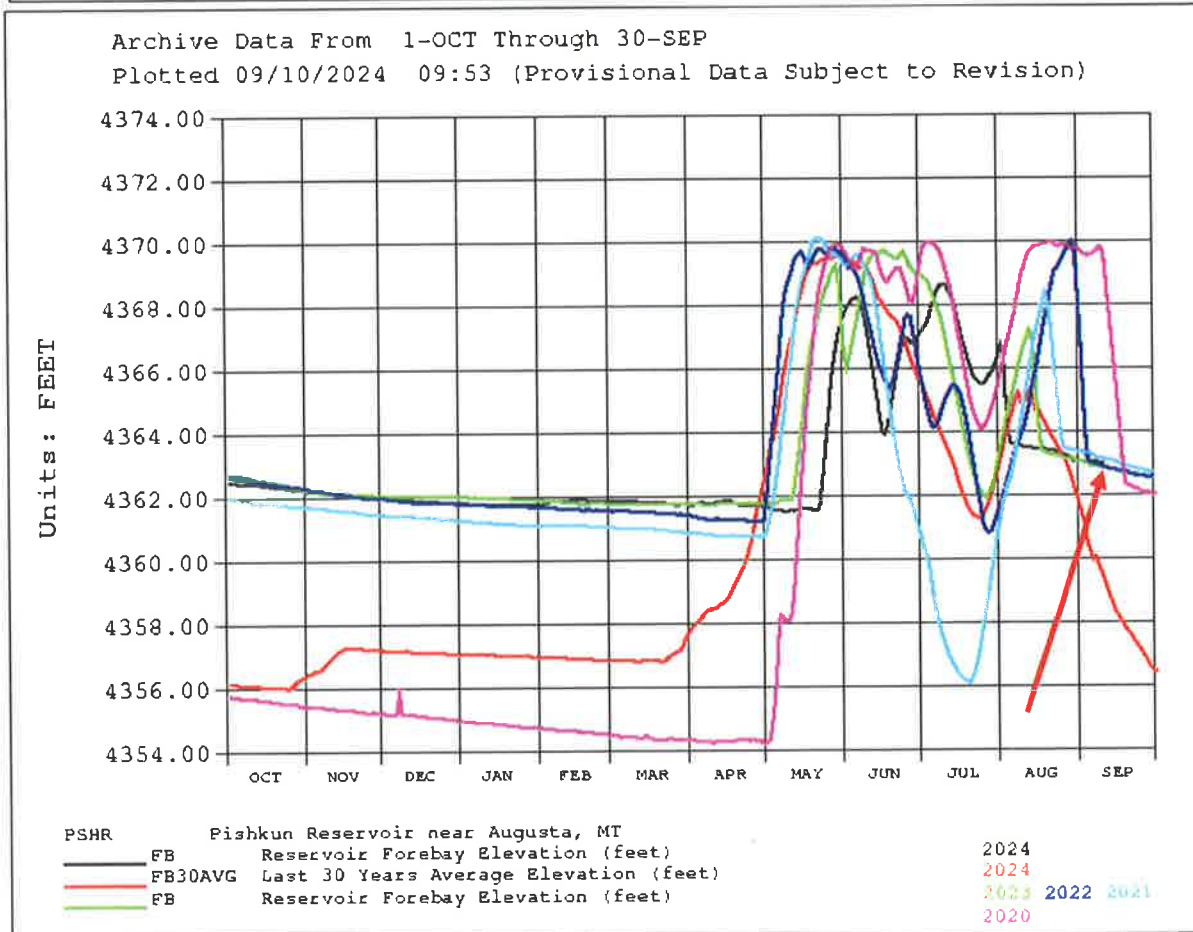
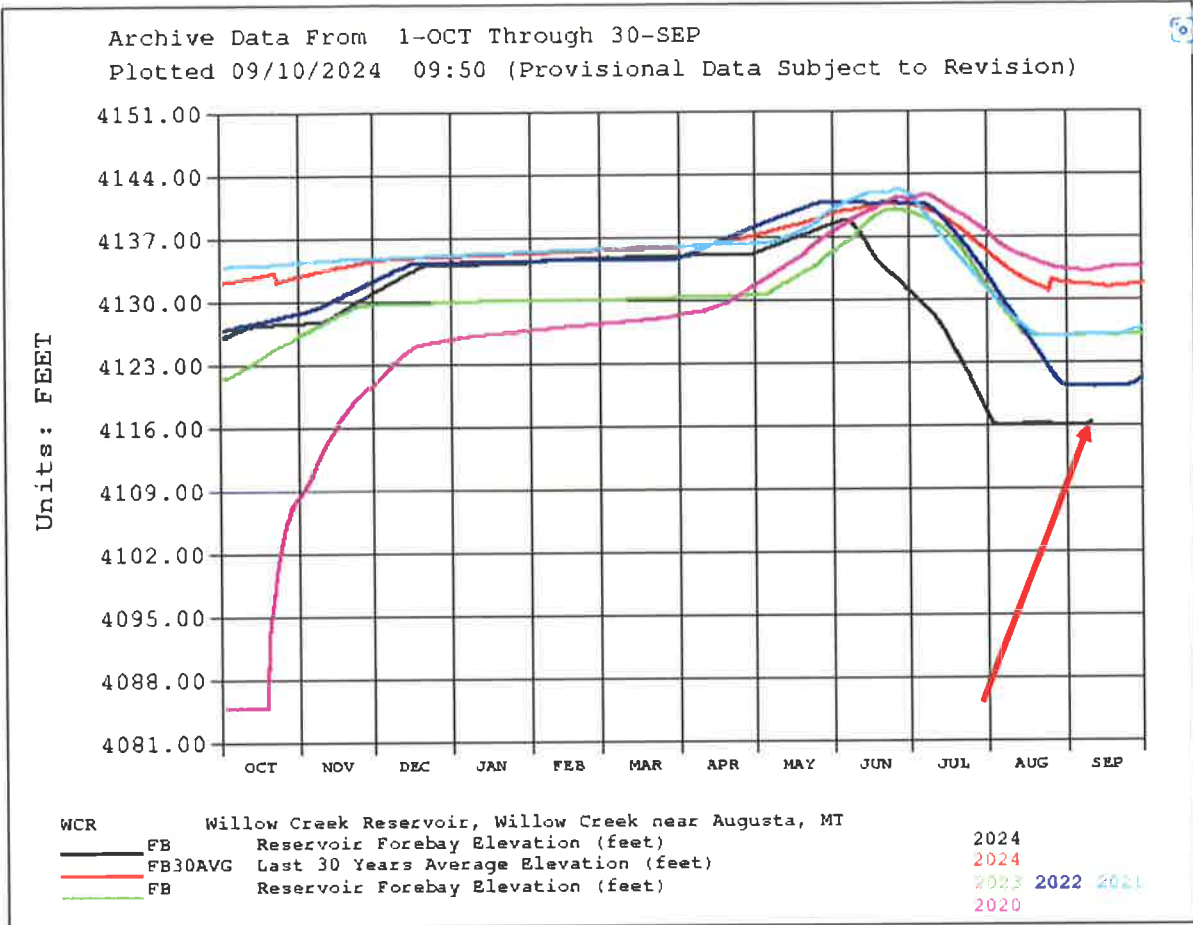
From: Erling A. Juel, P.E., District Manager

Subject: Manager's Report 09/10/24

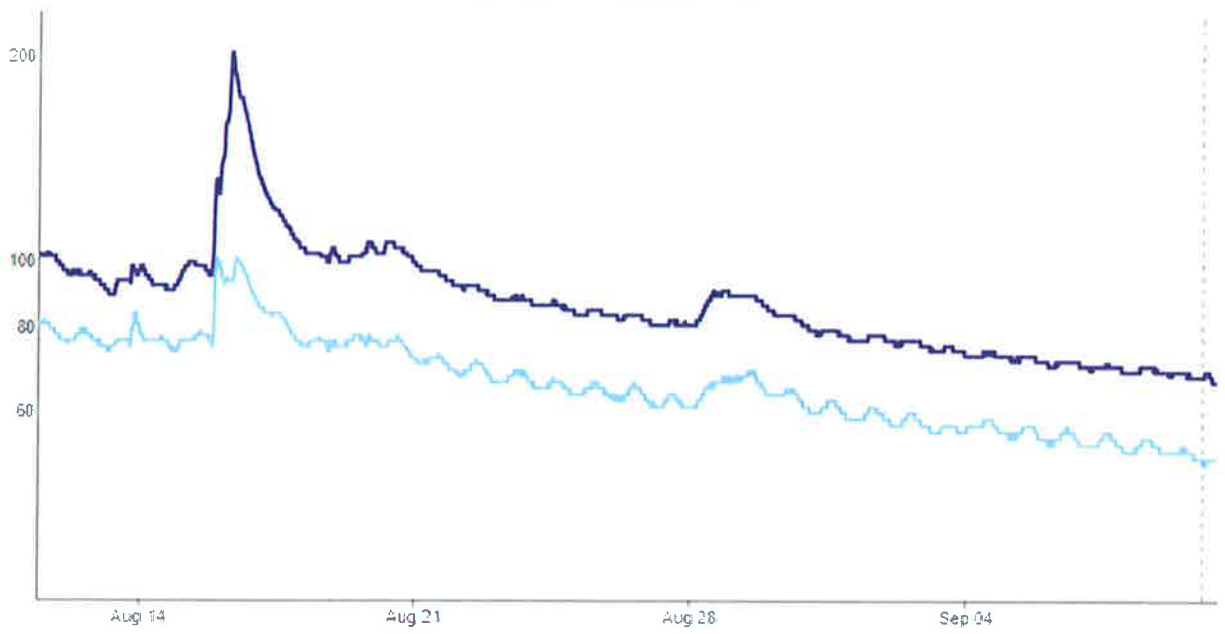
**1) RESERVOIR & RIVER OPERATIONS AND PROJECTIONS AS OF 09/10/24**

- A. Reservoir operations and levels over the last 5 days were:
- Gibson Res: 5,500 Ac-ft, 5.6% Full & 40% of Normal,
  - Gibson Inflows: varying from 115 to 120 cfs, 25% to 45% of Normal,
  - Gibson Outflows: +/-115 cfs,
  - Willow Creek Reservoir: 5,850 Ac-ft, 18% Full, 31.7% of Normal
  - Willow Creek Releases: 0 cfs
  - Pishkun Reservoir: 20,700 Ac-ft, 78% Full, 114% of Normal
- B. The National Climate Prediction Center is now predicting above normal temps and normal precipitation for September through November. December to February is predicted to be below normal temps and above normal precipitation.





August 11, 2024 - September 10, 2024  
Discharge, cubic feet per second



**IMPORTANT** Data may be **provisional**

Show legend ▾

**Selected values**

Location	Value	Status	Time
North Fork Sun River near Augusta MT - <a href="#">06078500</a>	67.9 ft <sup>3</sup> /s	Provisional	Sep 10 01:00 AM MDT
South Fork Sun River near Augusta MT - <a href="#">06079000</a>	51.4 ft <sup>3</sup> /s	Provisional	Sep 10 01:00 AM MDT

**C. In summary.....**

1. Faulty shaft encoder on one of the Gibson gate stems is impacting the accuracy of the numbers being reported for the inflows and releases from Gibson Reservoir.
2. However, the inflows are well below normal.
3. I understand that the FSID terminated river diversions on August 30<sup>th</sup>.
4. Initiated flows into the WCFC, but less than full flow due limited river flows.

**2) GID WATER RIGHT ISSUES**

A. Reviewing the Draft Adjudication for Basin 41K.

**3) STAFF UPDATES**

- A. Reminder, the GID Labor Contract is up for negotiations at the end of the year.
- B. The Water Master has indicated his desire to either retire or at least not work 7 days a week next season if we can structure a position for him.

**4) OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS & GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

- A. Office Manager Gullick will provide an update on efforts to replace our aging file server.
- B. Several desk computers need replacing. Holding off till Nov-Dec.
- C. Also, still holding off on replacing the copier.

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

A. Nancy is reviewing the land descriptions identified in the draft water rights adjudication.

**6) FARM UNIT OPERATIONS – Nothing New**

A. 117 new pivots over last 5 years – 17 in 2020; 37 in 2021; 16 in 2022; 22 in 2023; & 25 in 2024.

**7) MONTHLY FINANCIALS & 2024 BUDGET**

A. The account receivables for August totaled \$12,827.

B. Accounts payable in August totaled \$695,899 for the warrants as well as \$67,185 in salaries comprising two pay periods.

C. Received another payment for Turnbull, \$55,000. This year to date, \$105,000.

**8) GID VEHICLES & HEAVY EQUIPMENT**

A. Still looking to replace our 3-axle, lowboy transport trailer which experienced a major breakdown in the spring support brackets. A new, replacement trailer will cost +/- \$100k.

B. Several pieces of our equipment require maintenance, orange dump truck, crane, Cat 320 excavator, and the Cat 326 excavator.

**9) PEARSON LAWSUIT**

A. Nothing new.

**10) WILLOW CREEK FEEDER CANAL & LAWSUIT**

A. Mediation/Settlement Conference – The conference was held Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Federal Courthouse but yielded no settlement. If a mutually agreeable agreement is to be obtained, it appears to hinge on what MACO is willing to pay for closure and what Plaintiffs think they can get away with.

B. Need to sign the Attorney-Client Agreement with Gary Deschenes.

C. Preparing and finalizing the Pre-Trial Orders and prepping our witnesses.

D. Trial – November 4, 2024

**11) HYDRO UPDATES**

A. General – Regarding GID's fight with NWE's intent to update the QF-1 Tariffs.

1. The hearing is scheduled in Helena PSC for October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> with prep on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

2. Costs continue to mount up, unfortunately there is no stopping now.

B. Arnold Coulee LOPP –

1. **Transmission Design & Construction –**

• Construction continues on the Arnold Coulee transmission leg. GID excavated approximately 11 holes into rock that the Contractor's smaller backhoe could not advance. **See updated map.**

2. **Transmission Easements –**

• The easement for the switchyard site 2.6 miles west of Jackson's Corner will be on State Trust lands and has yet to be secured and is pending final decisions with WAPA, NWE, & SREC.

3. **SREC Interconnection & Transmission Agreements –** Nothing new regarding this work. Awaiting finalization of the PPA.

4. **Power Purchase Agreement** – Negotiations with NWE are still going slow. NWE continues to fight GID's effort and where POD shall be declared. Had a call with NWE on September 4<sup>th</sup>, nothing was decided. I have a conference call with WAPA tomorrow morning at 8am.
5. **WEEG WaterSmart Grant** – Next semi-annual performance and financial reports describing activities, due 09/30/24.
6. **INTERCAP Loan** – Nothing new.
7. **Construction** – Site construction has begun.
  - West and east embankments started.
  - Foundation excavation started. Encountering very hard rock within 3 of planned bottom and near the back corners. Groundwater 10 feet above the planned bottom. Plan to shift building footprint at least 5 feet.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Rebar Package has arrived.
  - Tying Rebar and 1<sup>st</sup> Concrete Pour. Behind schedule. Hopefully will start next week.
  - Scheduled Delivery of Draft Tubes. To arrive week of September 9<sup>th</sup>. Having to resolve some issues with Customs and Border Protection officials at the Sweetgrass crossing.
  - Ordered Fabrication of Draft Tube Extension Liners.
  - Soliciting quotes for reducer cones and embedment spools.









C. Pishkun Inlet Hydro – **NEPA and NHPA are the critical paths.**

1. **Funding** – Nothing new.
2. **LOPP** – Reclamation to initiate the Final LOPP for this site soon after the Arnold Coulee site kicks loose. This includes the NEPA & NHPA process.
3. **Transmission Easements** –
  - Need to establish the NEPA and NHPA requirements in order to finalize a preferred transmission route.
  - BOR and BLM have met. SREC and BLM have met. A meeting with all parties is being coordinated.
  - Will need to amend the Cultural Resource Study because of alignment shifts.
  - BOR is requiring that a Wetlands survey and evaluation be completed and submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers for any possible mitigation. Hopefully it can be completed this Fall.
4. **Transmission Design & Construction** – **Have not started this task.**
5. **Power Purchase Agreement** – **Have not started this task.**
6. **Design Drawings** – **Have not started this task.** Finally received a draft engineering contract from Sorenson for Pishkun Inlet.
7. **Turbine-Generator Fabrication** – In Progress.

D. Johnson Drop – **Nothing new.**

E. A-Drop – **Nothing new.**

F. Gibson Hydro – **Nothing new.**

**12) GID INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS- Current or Planned**

- A. Mary Taylor Facility –
  1. Will start the site topo survey to kick-start the PER (preliminary engineering report). Received a \$30k planning grant.
- B. Hwy 89 Ditch Crossings – Nothing new.
- C. Willow Creek Spillway Repair –
  1. Nearly finished with the spillway work portion. Will resume hauling in a couple of weeks.
- D. Sun River Bridge Replacement –
  1. Projected Schedule
    - Final Design & Advertise – October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - Open Bids – November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - Award & NTP – Feb. & April 2025, respectively.
    - Construction 2025 and 2026
  2. Status of Old Bridge – Still working to get the historical designation removed so the old bridge can be demo' ed as part of the overall project.
- E. Tunnel #3 Roof Collapse –
  1. The contractor has started procuring and fabricating materials.
  2. Pre-construction meeting will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> (tomorrow) at 10am. Contractor will be on site in a couple of weeks to start actual work.
- F. III J-Waste Way Facility, Spring Coulee Headworks –
  1. No word yet on the \$125K RRG grant application submitted on May 15<sup>th</sup> to help with GID's matching requirements for the SRWG's WaterSmart Grant. Applications will be ranked this Fall.

- G. SRS 71 Check Replacement and Reregulation, Phase 2– SRS Main Check
  - 1. Similarly, awaiting the ranking of the \$125k RRG grant application.
- H. Pishkun Outlet Replacement –
  - 1. Submitted an application to BOR for financial assistance regarding extraordinary maintenance work through the Aging Infrastructure Account.

**13) TITLE TRANSFER**

- A. **Nothing new.** If we enter a repayment contract for either the Tunnel #3 or Pishkun Inlet LOPP, we cannot finalize Title Transfer.

**14) MISC GID O&M PROJECTS**

- A. Eric will provide a brief verbal update.

**15) GID GRAZING LEASE PROGRAM**

- A. Sent a lease violation letter to Mr. Klinker regarding the subleasing of his pastures.

**16) DISTRICT MODERIZATION EFFORT WITH FCA**

- A. Continuing with bi-weekly meetings with FCA.
- B. Continuing to work on the Systems Improvement Plan (SIP)
- C. Need to go to Butte Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> to support our Groundwater Study proposal with the MBMG.

**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.

**18) SHORT-TERM TO DO LIST – SEPTEMBER**

- Make progress on PPA.
- Closeout SRS-71 Headworks project.
- Continued progress on rip rap hauling effort for Willow Creek Spillway IRRMs.
- Continue to make progress on Arnold Coulee.
- Start Repairs to Tunnel #3

**19) LONG-TERM TO DO LIST – OCTOBER & ON**

- Finalize a Systems Improvement Plan (SIP) with FCA
- Meet with Reclamation staff in Billings when?? (November?? After WCFC trial)
- Upper Missouri Conference Oct 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>
- Support GW Study at MT Tech Campus on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>
- Testifying at the PSC QF Avoided Cost Rate Hearing Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup>
- Get ready for WCFC trial

**NEXT GID BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM**

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## SRWG Update to GID, September 2024

- USGS has removed the Simms gage from the list for potentially discontinued funding. While it's safe for now, there's no guarantee it won't be at risk again or that other gages won't be discontinued. SRWG will be working with partners to try to resolve this issue state-wide.
- October 17 is the next Water Management Working Group meeting at 10:00, to be followed by the SRWG board meeting. Meetings will be held at the new Cascade Conservation District office 3615 29<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Great Falls. (Agenda attached)
- SRWG has submitted a proposal to Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG) for a groundwater storage study on the bench. This would be a multi-year study of connections between irrigation infrastructure and groundwater recharge/supply.
- DNRC and CCD have executed the grant for Muddy Creek and J-Wasteway. Working with Tenlee from Cascade Conservation District and Erling to finalize Request for Qualifications for engineering services and will get that out ASAP. GID can proceed with their portion of the project at any time.
- MWCC watershed tour of Sun River is Sept 18-20. The 18<sup>th</sup> will be an evening event – welcome social. Tour in the field will be the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Evening social is Thursday Sept 19 at CCD; tickets for the social are available separate from the tour.
- Thanks to recently awarded Reclamation grants, the next three years will be very busy for SRWG. Once our outstanding awards are contracted, we're excited to share a full list of upcoming projects. Some projects include:
  - Preliminary Engineering Report for improving the efficiency of the Willow Creek outlet and Floweree Canal intake
  - Studying groundwater/surface water recharge impacts from on-farm infrastructure
  - Rain Barrel workshops for the next 3-4 years
  - And more!
- SRWG is now requesting the same partnership support GID has traditionally contributed to SRWG in the fall, which is \$4,000.

## SRWG 2024 Coming Events

September 18-20	MWCC Tour of Sun River Watershed
October 17	Water Management Working Group, 10 am at CCD SRWG Board Meeting, 1 pm at CCD
Dec 1-10	Tracy vacation

