

An annual meeting of the Local Improvement District #5 Colony Canal Advisory Board was held on January 12, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM at Rosie's Place, 2881 State Route 208, Wellington, NV by General Manager Bryan.

Present:

Robert Bryan
Joanne Sarkisian
Adam Evans
Todd Sceirine
Steve Hanson
Micke Bryan

Sandy Neville
Dave Dahl
Carole O'Banion
Dennis Acciari
Larry Roberts
Chelsi Powrie

Jessica Halterman
Jeff Hunewill
Rob Lewis
Michelle Hanson
Scott Parker

1. **Call Meeting to order; read proxies into official record.**
Jeff Hunewill was given proxies by Bliss-Hunewill and Triangle H. Dennis Acciari was given a proxy by Gaye Gordon. Mike Bryan was given a proxy by George Helmuth.
2. **Public Comment**
None presented.
3. **Consideration of the minutes of the February 4, 2023, Annual Canal Board Meeting.**
Denise Hunewill read the minutes. Dave Dahl made a motion to approve the minutes; Rob Lewis offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.
4. **Consideration of the minutes of the December 18, 2023, Advisory Board Meeting.**
Rob Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes; Mike Bryan offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.
5. **Ditch Tender Update on Water Season 2023**
Chelsi Powrie stated last year was great. The ditch does need weeding and cleaning. There were a few gates that were leaking, but there was no water shortage, so everything was okay.
6. **Financial Report**
Denise presented the Profit and Loss Statement. There was a big ditch maintenance expense as expected. The Canal will be getting a partial refund from Stockman's Insurance since the District took over the Canal. GM Bryan confirmed that the Canal is now under the District's liability insurance. GM Bryan also stated that the District will begin collecting assessments for the Canal starting in July. All water right owners on the Canal will be assessed- even reserved water right holders.
7. **Planned upcoming scheduled maintenance and projects**
 - Headworks upgrade: GM Bryan stated the District has a grant to upgrade the headworks. The crew may be able to start in a week or two, so the stock water must be shut off as early as next week. Chelsi asked if the gates would be set at a certain time each day as that is her biggest challenge. Joanne stated she sets the Saroni at 2 AM and

her River Rider would be there between 5-6 AM. Sandy stated the only downfall to the automatic gates is when the communications are down, the River Rider must set the gates manually. Joanne stated she sends a text when the communications are down.

- Routine Maintenance: GM Bryan stated that now would be a good time to do maintenance on individual stretches of the canal. There is a stretch from Costa's to the subdivision that needs attention because of the increased tail water from Red Canyon.
- De-mossing: Historically, the Canal uses 6-8 barrels per year. Rob asked if there were any barrels left over from last year; Mike Bryan stated there are a couple barrels left.
- Spraying: GM Bryan stated the Conservation District does the spraying for the District and could do the Colony as well if that is what is wanted. GM Bryan stated that if any noxious weeds are seen, let him know as the Conservation District operates under County funding to take care of that. Chelsi stated there was a lot of dodder weeds at the top and she took care of it weekly.

8. Budget and Assessments for FY2024/2025

GM Bryan stated the fiscal year will now align with the District and will be from July 1st through June 30th. The current assessment is \$10 per acre; a breakdown of optional per acre costs were provided. Rob asked if any calculation had been made in past years on how much money is being collected versus what will be collected; Jessica stated there will be approximately \$10,000 more per year collected now with the reserved assessments. Jessica stated that if someone does not pay on time, there will be interest and late fees collected that will be added to the Colony revenue.

GM Bryan stated the snowpack is at 56% of average to date and the water year is expected to be similar to 2016. From the storage standpoint, the storage amount will be healthy (not quite 100%), but the decree will not be great this year. There is only a 25% chance that the water year will improve to above average for the year.

Rob asked how many times the canal will be de-mossed; Mike stated probably only once at the end of August. GM Bryan stated in really bad years, the ditch was de-mossed twice or the ditch was dried out but then the losses increased.

Jeff Hunewill asked if the \$10 per acre assessment fee resulted in the \$17,000 income; Denise stated the balance in the First Independent Bank is about \$56,500 and Wells Fargo balance is \$53,900 so the Canal is ahead of where the Canal was last year.

Jeff Hunewill made a motion to set the assessment at \$10 per acre; Todd Sceirine offered a second. The vote was called for and passed.

Scott Parker asked if WRID was going to assume the debt of those users who have not paid; GM Bryan stated that unfortunately, the District cannot collect past debt but can collect going forward. Scott asked if there was a plan to resolve the unpaid debt; GM Bryan stated the District can submit a bill to those who owe but cannot force anyone to pay. Denise stated it may have more weight if the District sent a bill. The amounts are not large, but just keep adding up. Scott asked how many acres are delinquent; Jessica stated it was approximately 230 acres.

9. Old/New Business

GM Bryan stated there were some areas that were disrupted by tailwater off of the Pinenuts. The north end of Costa's had to be cleaned periodically and there may need to be a change in the base line.

In regard to the headwork project, the ditch will be shut off next week and the crew will work as quickly as possible to complete the upgrades. GM Bryan will accept as much help as possible to keep the project on track.

There are new owners on the Mc Kay property. The new owner wants to put a bridge over the canal near the spillback. GM Bryan will be meeting with the new owner and will request that some Advisory Board Members also attend. The County will not finalize a building permit without Canal and District approval.

10. Election of Advisory Board Members

Rob Lewis made a motion to keep Dennis and Jeff on the Advisory Board; Mike offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The other board members are Mike, Rob, and Todd.

11. Public Comment

Rob thanked the ditch rider and the WRID board for doing a good job.

12. Adjournment

Dennis made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jeff offered a second. The vote was called for and passed. The meeting was adjourned.