

Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 10:00 A.M.
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

These are the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the United Irrigation District, held in the Glenwood Office on February 20th, 2024, commencing at 10:00 A.M

Present: Duane Nelson – Chairman
Daniel Hunsperger – Vice-Chairman
Jim Woolf – Board Member
Craig B. Smith – Board Member
Nicholas Barfuss – Board Member
Fred Rice – District Manager
Viera Ducky – Office Manager

Discussion and Acceptance of January 22, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the January 22, 2023 Minutes; SECONDED by Craig Smith.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the January 2024 Payroll

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the January 2024 Payroll; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of February 20, 2024 Accounts Payable

Craig Smith MOVED to accept the February 20, 2024 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to February 20, 2024

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept February 20, 2024, Financial Statement; SECONDED by Craig Smith.
...CARRIED

Audit 2023 – Auditor’s report

The audit was presented by Hakon Skoien, the auditor, and was discussed by the Board.

Mr. Skoien noted that it was a clean audit, the books were done well, and from the audit view, balances were reported correctly. No indication of control deficiency.

The sale of terminable acres as permanent acres and the sale of 295 acres from new acres contributed to a much higher surplus in fiscal year 2023 than planned. The Board decided to transfer investments in RBC and ATB to an Internally restricted fund but still showing a surplus for the year.

Because of incremental revenue which was due on January 31st, 2024 the loan at National Bank was fully paid.

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the audited financial statements as presented; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Water Sharing Agreement – Workshop #1 Meeting

This meeting took place at the University of Calgary Downtown Campus on February 9th, 2024 and Fred attended the meeting in person. Fred said that it looks like we can have maybe 6” of water for the season and hopefully situation with the water will positively change. There was an agreement prepared in 2002 which was never signed as the critical situation with water changed after a good rainfall. Fred is in favor of this kind of agreement. The next meeting will be on March 1st.

Budget 2024

The budget was discussed, and an increase in salaries and wages was applied as well as other expected changes.

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept Budget 2024 as presented; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

2024 AIDA Conference “When In Drought”

The conference took place in Lethbridge this year on February 5-7, 2024. The first day of the conference mostly focused on the drought situation in our province and the second day was more technically oriented. On Wednesday, February 7th Fred presented the Belly River Reservoir Proposal. He did a great job and the

presentation was received very well by the audience. Fred, Jim, Nick, and Viera attended the event.

UID website update proposal

Duane asked Kimberley Rice if she would be willing to work on upgrading the UID website. Duane wants to include on the website a spot for the Belly River Reservoir Proposal.

Kim presented the idea of how she would create the website, benefits, and implementation plan. Jim asked if the name of the website could be changed as the current name seems to be hard to find.

Kim is planning to have her work ready at the end of March. She will prepare the agreement as discussed. Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to approve Kimberley Rice's proposal for UID website update; SECONDED by Duane Nelson. ...CARRIED

Craig Smith MOVED to pay Kimberley Rice at Western Hive \$750 for creating the presentation for the Belly River Reservoir Proposal; SECONDED by Jim Woolf. ...CARRIED

New water measuring system app

Fred visited Raymond Irrigation District to learn more about the new water measuring system app that can replace DDIT. Magrath Irrigation District is currently switching to this system as well. Fred was also discussing this system with Jollin Charest from Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation and they support this app. The initial cost would be \$5,000 plus the cost of time needed to transfer data from DDIT and our mapping system QGIS.

Craig Smith MOVED to purchase a water measuring system app from Wilde Brothers Engineering which will replace the existing DDIT program; SECONDED by Jim Woolf. ...CARRIED

Loan at National Bank

The loan at National Bank was fully paid on January 29, 2024, based on the motion from January 22nd last regular meeting.

2011 Ford Picker Truck

The transmission has been replaced. The cost was \$11,013.45 and the truck is back.

2022 Dodge

2022 Dodge was involved in a road accident. Fred was driving to Carstar Cardston to repair the damage from last year when a passing truck lost control and hit the Dodge twice on the left rear side. Our truck is in Carstar Cardston waiting for repair and damage will be covered by third-party insurance.

New laptop for the future presentation

As mentioned above, Fred's presentation on the proposed reservoir was met very well and he was already asked by a few people if he would be willing to come to present the presentation at different places. We need a newer reliable laptop for this and other purposes. The Board agrees with purchasing a new laptop.

Ideas for the UID AGM 2024

The Board agrees that Fred should do the presentation for the Belly River Reservoir Proposal for those at the meeting and maybe show them a drone video of the F Lateral open ditch. We should mention a new water measuring system for Ditchriders.

Election 2024

Two of our Board Members are up for election – Duane Nelson and Daniel Hunsperger. The nominations need to be submitted by 4:00 pm on March 20, 2024.

UID Inter-District Tour 2024

This year we would like to organize the tour here at the UID sometime in June as the tour was pushed away due to COVID-19 restrictions a few years ago. We will start to organize it.

Meeting with Hon. Joseph Schow and others

The Board and Fred would like to invite some authorities for a meeting and present them with the Belly River Reservoir Proposal. We are planning to invite Hon. Joseph Schow, Hon. RJ Sugurdson, Hon. Rebecca Schulz, Mr. Grant Hunter, Mr. Cameron Francis, Mr. Murray Millward, Mr. Joe Thomas and Randy Taylor.

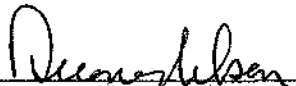
Lunch prepared by Nick Barfuss will be served after the presentation and discussion.


Belly River Reservoir Proposal Presentation

Fred did a presentation for all Board members as some of them were not able to attend the conference and see it at that time. The Board enjoyed it and liked the presentation.

Duane Nelson MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:50 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, March 20th, 2024, at 10:00 A.M


Chairman – Duane Nelson


District Manager – Fred Rice