

**Monday, April 14, 2014 at 10:00 A.M.**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**AGENDA**

These are the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the United Irrigation District, held in the Glenwood Office on Monday, April 14, 2014 commencing at 10:00 A.M.

Present: Duane Nelson - Chairman  
Jim Woolf - Vice-Chairman  
David Layton - Board Member  
Robert Wynder - Board Member  
Daniel Hunsperger - Board Member  
Fred Rice - Manager  
B. Craig Smith - Assistant Manager

**Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

Jim Woolf NOMINATED Duane Nelson as Chairman. SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. All in Favour  
Robert Wynder NOMINATED Jim Woolf as Vice-Chairman. SECONDED by David Layton.  
Jim Woolf NOMINATED David Layton as Vice-Chairman. SECONDED by Duane Nelson.  
Vote - 3 in favour of Jim Woolf; 2 in favour of David Layton. Jim Woolf elected Vice-Chairman.

**Discussion and Acceptance of the March 19, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the March 19, 2014 regular meeting minutes; SECONDED by Robert Wynder. ...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of March 2014 Payroll**

Robert Wynder MOVED to accept the March 2014 payroll, SECONDED by David Layton. ...CARRIED

**Reading, Discussion and Acceptance of April 14, 2014 Accounts Payable**

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept April 14, 2014 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Robert Wynder. ...CARRIED

**Reading, Discussion and Acceptance of April 14, 2014 Petty Cash**

Robert Wynder MOVED to accept April 14, 2014 Petty Cash; SECONDED by David Layton. ...CARRIED

**Reading and Discussion and Acceptance of Financial Report to April 12, 2014**

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the April 12, 2014 Financial Report. SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger ...CARRIED

**Village Mural**

Sherri Tatlow and Sondra Smith made a presentation to the Board about murals that are being painted and posted on the sides of buildings in Glenwood and invited the UID to donate \$600 to a mural about water and irrigation to go on the side of the old UID building on main street. After discussion it was felt that it would be a good way to promote irrigation. David and Craig will work with the committee to have the wording on the mural reflecting more the benefits of irrigation. Daniel Hunsperger Moved that the UID support this project by donating the \$600. Seconded by David Layton. ...CARRIED

There was also discussion about educating the residents of the Villages of Glenwood and Hill Spring about the benefits of water coming into the villages from the rural UID sources. There is occasional debate by village residents about not providing potable water to rural residents outside the villages. The UID transferred water licences for irrigation uses inside the Villages at no cost in 2003 to save on the use of potable water. There is significant value for these licences that has benefited the village residents. David Layton Moved that a letter be written to the Villages of Glenwood and Hill Spring reminding the residents and Councils of these benefits. Seconded by Robert Wynder.  
...CARRIED

### **Results of the Plebiscite and Next Actions**

The results of the plebiscite were 61 “for” and 21 “against”. The results were forwarded to Irrigation Secretariat and to Alberta Environment. Alberta Environment will proceed with their requirements. No time line was given as to when they would proceed.

### **Board Governance**

Duane reviewed the basics of Board Governance and sited an incident at the Public Meeting that represented the Board not speaking as one voice outside the Board room on the issue of the water licence transfer. Duane questioned if the Board had ever put a policy in writing. Robert felt it had been discussed in 2004 by Ron Archibald at the time of the initial licence transfer. Jim said he was not mad but it did make the Board look bad at the meeting. David felt the UID did not do a good enough job of presenting the pros and cons of the issue to the irrigators prior to the Public meeting and the Plebiscite so they could make a good decision when voting. Craig will contact other Districts to determine what they have in place for Board policy.

### **Revised By-Law 3-2014 – Correction to the Amounts Charged for Water Conveyance**

Craig indicated he had made a mistake in the amount to be charged for water conveyance in 2014 that needed correction in the By-Law. It was noted by the Board and indicated that Craig make the revision to reflect the correct amount.

### **Alternate/Transfer Acre Agreements for 2014**

Alternate acre agreement applications have been received from the Hutterian Brethren Church of Riverside (2), Hengerer Farms Ltd. (1), Larry Gibb (2), Jim Folsom (1), and Duane Nelson (1). Robert Wynder Moved to approve the alternate acre applications for 2014. Seconded by Jim Woolf.  
...CARRIED

The Hutterian Brethren Church of Standoff Colony applied to transfer acres – 55 acres from Short Legal 4;26;6;12;SW to Short Legal 4;25;6;5;13;14/4;25;6;8;SW and 148 acres from Short Legal 4;25;6;18;NW/4;25;6;18;SW/1111652;1;1 to Short Legal 4;25;6;17;NE/4;25;6;17;SE. David Layton Moved to approve the transfer application; Seconded by Daniel Hunsperger.  
...CARRIED

### **Larry Gibb Request to Change Terminable Acres to Permanent Acres**

Larry has requested that all his terminable acres become permanent acres. He would like to have the alternate acres from SE 20-4-27-W4 being used on Sections 9/10 4-27-W4 transferred back to section 20 and add 93.59 permanent acres to Section 20. On this point Fred indicated that there are not any extra acres in the District expansion limit available to do this. His alternative would be to purchase irrigation acres from other irrigators within the District who desired to sell their water rights but that the approval still was required by the Board of Directors. He also wanted to transfer the 14 assessed acres from SW 15-4-27-W4 ( Larry’s home quarter) permanently to Sections 9/10 4-27-W4. It was noted that these acres are needed on the home quarter to provide water to the dugouts that provide the irrigation water to the pivots on Sections 9 & 10. Jim noted that the 14 acres from SW 15 are being used as alternate acres and asked if the UID should be charging rural water use to Larry for water provided to the dugouts on SW 15. It will be investigated.

### **Changing Terminable Acres to Permanent Acres in the District**

The Board had previously asked that all terminable acres of the District be reviewed with the view to change them to permanent acres. Robert feels terminable acres on Lateral A should remain terminable in order to have the ability to deal with possible dry years. After discussion it was decided to leave Lateral A for future discussion but to change all other terminable acres to permanent acres within the District.

Jim Woolf Moved to change all terminable acres in the District to permanent acres with the exception of Lateral A to be considered at a later date after more study. Seconded by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

### **Investments Options**

Investment options were again discussed by the Board. Present investments were examined in more detail as provided by RBC – Dennis Chinner. The overall yield for 2014 was 3.8%.

Management fees by RBC over the entire portfolio were 0.66%. The growth was limited by a third of the investments being in low yield GICs but in line with the low risk investment policy of the District. Jim suggested that the UID could do much better and not incur unwise risk by looking at other investment alternatives. After a long discussion it was decided to use the services of Darren Tanner with ATB Investments for a portion of the investment portfolio starting with the GIC's as they mature May 24/26, 2014. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED the GIC's be invested with ATB Investments in the Compass Conservative fund when they mature. SECONDED by David Layton. ...CARRIED

### **Folsom Dairy Expansion**

Jim has not had a chance to visit with the Folsom's as discussed in the March 19 meeting. Fred took some water samples above and below the dairy site on April 2. The water was significantly more yellowed from the below site. The water samples could not be submitted for testing due to collection protocol. The sample bottles have been obtained from the Health Authority and can be collected and forwarded according to protocol when there is water running in the canal again.

### **Standoff Colony Application for a Rural Water Agreement for a Proposed Feedlot**

No formal application has been received yet.

### **AIPA Board Meeting Report**

Fred and Duane reported that the AIPA is requesting a \$0.075/assessed acre increase to build a reserve to combat the potential of the invasive species of Quagga and Zebra mussels coming into Alberta. They also picked up a letter from Ron McMullen that noted the need for Irrigation Districts to provide a declaration of compliance under section 20 of the Alberta Stewardship Land Act in regards to the Southern Alberta Regional Land Use Plan. After investigation it was noted that the land use plan will not come into effect until later in 2014 and the Districts will have up to 2 years to provide the compliance declaration. This will be followed and worked on with other Districts.

David Layton Moved that the UID provide the \$0.075/assessed acre to build the reserve needed to deal with the potential mussel invasive species problem; Seconded by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

### **Cost of Water Delivery**

As a follow up to the request of some irrigators at the Annual meeting, an estimated budget study of the expenses associated only with providing water delivery by the District was completed. The estimated cost is \$15 per assessed acre which is the same estimate given at the meeting.

### **Dave McGee Retirement**

The Board was advised that a retirement party is being held in Lethbridge on May 8, 2014 for Dave McGee. Any wishing to attend need to RSVP by May 2, 2014

### **Ditchrider Salaries**

The salaries were reviewed at length due to an outside offer made to one of the employees. It was decided to make an offer to the ditchriders that would provide comparable remuneration in order to maintain good employees for the needs of the District. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to make a new offer to the Ditchriders; SECONDED by David Layton. David, Daniel, Jim in favour, Duane abstained (Robert had to leave the meeting earlier). ..CARRIED

### **Scholarships**

Fred asked the Board if a letter should be sent to all graduating Grade 12 students as we did last year to let them know about the scholarship. It was decided that they have access to the availability of the scholarship at the High School and those interested can apply.

### **Fred's Agenda**

1. **IRP 2158 - Lateral D3 Progress**

Fred is concerned about being done in time for running water in May. He is considering going to 9 hour days. It has been very wet and challenging this spring.

2. **Tool Box for the 2013 Dodge Truck**

Fred would like to purchase a new tool box for the new truck and not put the old tool box from the 02 Dodge in the new truck. The Board agreed and told him to go ahead with it.

3. **02 Dodge - keep or sell?**

Duane suggested that if Steve is interested in buying the truck for ditchrider purposes that it be sold to him over time if he would like. Suggested \$1,000 per month off of his cheque to pay for it. Check out prices and see what would be a fair and reasonable amount.

Next meeting: May 20, 2014 at 9:00 A.M.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 P.M.

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Chairman - Duane Nelson

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District Manager - Fred Rice