

**Wednesday, March 16, 2022, 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 March 16th, 2022, 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 February 23, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes**

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the February 23, 2022 Minutes; SECONDED by Jim Woolf. One member abstains. ...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of the February 2022 Payroll**

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the February 2022 Payroll; SECONDED by Duane Nelson. ...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of March 16, 2022 Accounts Payable**

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the March 16, 2022 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to March 16, 2022**

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept March 16, 2022, Financial Statement; SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss. ...CARRIED

**Budget 2022-23 update with Minister Horner**

On Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM, Honourable Nate Horner, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Economic Development reached out to all irrigation districts to provide an update regarding Budget 2022-23. Even though government realizes how agriculture and irrigation are important, the minister sadly needed to drop IRP funding for irrigation districts from \$14 million to \$12 million for this year and the next couple of years. Duane was on the call on behalf of the UID.

**Cochrane Aquifer Relief Well project - update from AEP**

Paul Elser, Director of Water Infrastructure and Operations Branch sent us an update on the Cochrane Aquifer Relief Well project, specifically regarding our concerns about the existing well that is providing water for Spring Glen Park. This well will not be decommissioned this year and they likely won't start the rehabilitation process until the fall of 2023. AEP promised to evaluate other potential options for a water source for Spring Glen Park and which will be discussed with the UID shortly.

**Ditch rider's position**

The Board discussed the candidates for the Ditch rider's position again and decided to hire Neil Allred as a Ditch rider for the Hill Spring area.

**Expansion acres in our district**

One of the conditions for the loan to be approved for modernization projects as mentioned before was the expansion in our district. Alberta Agriculture is still working on the UID expansion file. They will finalize the modeling results along with the public information and share the outcome with Fred and the Board, once available.

The modeling that they are reviewing is considered a 10% expansion - 3,440 acres. There is a slight increase in the risk of a water shortage but not much greater than we have now. It is hard to calculate the difference.

As the proposed expansion for UID is 500 acres, this small increase will have a negligible effect on the change in risk of a water shortage in the district.

Board will ask ratepayers for their opinion on expansion at the AGM today.

#### **Funds spent on engineering for projects**

Fred gave the Board review on how much we have spent on engineering for projects substantially completed in 2021 – Lateral B8 – 5.74%, Lateral F7 – 4.35%, Lateral A1e – 8.97%, and Lateral D1- 5.78%.

#### **IRP#2368 Lateral F Drain**

Delivery for PVC pipe for Lateral F Drain is scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>. The elbows have not been made yet, so the delivery will be delayed. Structures should be completed by March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Fred is expecting to start working on the project by the end of March. As discussed at the last regular meeting, we will need to transfer funds temporarily from internally restricted funds to pay for the pipe and structures.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to transfer \$ 205,000 from restricted fund into general account; SECONDED by Duane Nelson. ...CARRIED

#### **Darren Tanner – Financial Advisor at the ATB Financial**

Darren Tanner offered his time to the Board to discuss the UID's investments. The Board thanked Darren for the offer and kindly declined as the investments are doing well.

#### **AEP Dam Safety**

More drawings of our main canal have been sent to the Dam Safety Team but we have not received any response yet.

#### **Election 2022**

The nominations need to be submitted by 4:00 pm today. The only nomination was submitted from Jim Woolf as of today.

#### **Annual Three-Year Plan**

The Annual Three-Year Plan was partially approved. Only engineering was approved for IRP#2378 F Lateral. Irrigation Council has some concerns about the slopes of the canal referring to the 2 to 1 slope which we submitted. Under the IRP manual, slopes should be 2.5 to 1, so the Irrigation Council wants some sort of guarantee from our engineer that the submitted plan will work. Fred will discuss the matter with Darin Wilde.

#### **Indigenous Representation on AIDA**

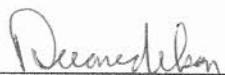
The AIDA sent us the Executive Committee Proposal: Indigenous Representation on AIDA - to discuss the material as confidential at our board meeting. Board members discussed the proposal. They made a decision that they are not in favor of any of the proposed options.

#### **Request to support Glenwood Recreation Committee**

The Recreation Committee member approached Fred with the request to sponsor a chuck wagon. The Board decided not to support the project.

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, April 25, 2022, at 10:00 A.M



Chairman – Duane Nelson



District Manager – Fred Rice