

Tuesday, June 18, 2018 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 June 18, 2018, commencing at 10:00 A.M.

Present: Duane Nelson – Chairman
Jim Woolf – Board Member
Craig B. Smith – Board Member
Brandon Gibb – Board Member
Fred Rice – Manager
Viera Ducky – Assistant Manager
Daniel Hunsperger – Vice-Chairman - Absent

Discussion and Acceptance of the May 22, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the May 22, 2018 minutes; SECONDED by Craig Smith.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the May 2018 Payroll

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept the May 2018 Payroll; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of June 18, 2018 Accounts Payable

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept June 18, 2018 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to June 18, 2018

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept June 18, 2018 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Craig Smith.

... CARRIED

Dipping Vat Lake – Dan French

Dan French came to the meeting to refresh the discussion and ask the Board for an opinion regarding the long term issue between land owners around Dipping Vat Lake, the Alberta Environment & Parks and others. A structure was put in on the North end of the lake causing the water level to rise which caused erosion and covered private property. Dipping Vat Lake use to be very attractive fishing and recreational destination. The environment wanted to buy the land under the water and make a fence around the lake without the access for farmers and their livestock to the water. The landowners were not happy with the price offered and the fact that their access to the water would be lost. Since the problem with erosion occurred, the banks of the lake deteriorated and caused damage to landowners adjacent to the lake. The UID is not supplying irrigation water to the lake until the issues are solved.

Brandon's question was if Dan would be happy to sell the land under the water and the UID will build a dugout for the water during the winter. Craig's suggestion was to fill the lake with the irrigation water without causing erosion so the lake could be freshened and Dan can use the water for his livestock. According to Dan it's actually a good idea with dugout, but the other option is not possible because the new structure on the north side of the lake is about 2 feet higher than originally and it causes the erosion.

The UID Board decision is to supply irrigation water to the Dipping Vat Lake if all owners around the lake come to an agreement, otherwise nothing new will happen.

The issues with people opening drain lines and messing with structures

Since the water season started the UID has had several problems with people opening drain line without notifying our Ditch Riders. Last Saturday Fred caught Chad Folsom when he was opening

the drain line and it caused an air vent to start leaking at Bester's place. The other problem was in Hidden Valley because they put all the boards in the structures. Lateral B overtopped because people shut off and didn't tell Ditch Rider.

Fred wonders if we should make a bylaw and charge a fine for tampering. Jim's suggestion was to send a bill to Folsom Dairy for Ditch Rider's time for fixing the problem in Hidden Valley and also going out to Bester's place. Brandon and other Board members suggested a first time offence fine of 250\$. Brandon also thinks it is a trespassing and we should take a legal action.

The UID will send a letter together with the bill to the Folsom Dairy Ltd.

The crew of the UID also noticed damages on Cochrane Lake when people are fishing there and some old tires were thrown in the lake. Fred closed the gate to keep people out.

UID Condition Evaluation Reports

As per the Irrigation Works Maintenance Policy in the IRP Administration Manual, the Basin Water Management Section staff has completed condition evaluation reports for the following:

IRP #: 797, 665, 1124, 1697, 810, 1620, 1338, 1478, 1244. The draft report was sent to the UID.

The meeting followed with Lloyd Healy and Beau Hay where reports were reviewed with Fred and Duane. Fred reported that some of the ditches which were evaluated poor are already in very good conditions, some are not and will be fixed once the water is shut down in the fall.

The UID will submit an Action Plan by September 30th as requested by IRP Admin Manual 2012.

New budget

A new budget was prepared for internal usage and a few changes were made reflecting one time operational funding and a decrease IRP funds from the government. The UID should still finish the fiscal year with a surplus.

Definition for irrigation works in the Irrigation District Act

Subsequently to the issue with the fence along the UID's canal which was ripped out by Lynn Bishop, the Board has discussed the definition of the irrigation works according to the Irrigation District Act. The fence is considered to be an irrigation work. The UID will send a bill to Mr. Bishop for time spent by a crew and equipment used for salvaging the wire and posts. A letter explaining about the fine will be applied and legal action taken in the future if the same problem will happen will be sent as well.

2018 AIPA Inter-District Tour

The 2018 Inter-District Tour was held on June 6 in the Taber Irrigation District. A total of 39 individuals from a number of irrigation districts and the Irrigation Council attended. An interesting selection of projects was observed. Fred and Duane attended the event and reviewed it as a very good and interesting tour. 2019 Inter-District Tour will be hosted by the Western Irrigation District.

Folsom Dairy Ltd - Annual borehole tests

The UID received Annual borehole tests from Folsom Dairy Ltd. prepared by Down to the Earth Inc. Fred asked Janelle Villeneuve, Water Quality Specialist from Alberta Agriculture & Forestry for more explanation. She compared the results with feedlots from Picture Butte intensive area for livestock and results are similar within guidelines. As long as they are consistent, they should be ok. The tests will be monitored and compared each year.

Lateral B8

Our Engineer Darin Wilde prepared all drawings needed for preparing easements for IRP 2298 Lateral B8. Doug Carlson and Marjorie Ryan are asking to remove the old concrete line from 1979 on their land prior to signing the easement. It's about ½ mile of infrastructure and they don't want it in their place. Joachim Hengerer offered to dig the line and keep it. Fred thinks it is a good idea so we can then use the trench for burying PVC pipe.

UID's crossings on the environment canal

Repairs have been made on the damaged UID flume, they are just a temporary fix. Dennis Matis from Alberta Environment & Parks asked the UID for this year to operate the flow rate only at 3.5cfs within total of 8" in the crossing.

This should work unless Robert Wynder orders water on the Hans Michel piece-right to the north. No water has been ordered last six years for this land.

Tour for Irrigation Council

The Board of the UID tentatively moved the tour to the end of July. Irrigation Council has a meeting this week and they will let us know which days will work for them so we can organize the tour.

100 years of the UID

The UID would definitely like to celebrate this exceptional anniversary. Some ideas came out like roast beef lunch or BBQ. The celebration will take place next summer and the topic will be discussed again.

Pipeline leak

The pipeline leak was found at Larry Gibb's on the old Hanson place. Larry shut off the water and the UID fixed the problem. If there will be a leaking problem in the future, the pipeline should be replaced.

Issue at Headworks

One gate actuator at the Headworks was not working. Fred contacted Instream from Lethbridge, they removed the parts and it will be repaired hopefully next week. Price for the repair will be high and it was not planned.

Section from the Irrigation Water Act – Irrigable units 23.1-23.9 read

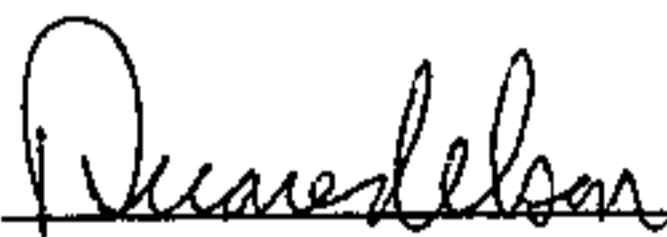
As was recommended by AIPA before, the Board discussed one section of the Irrigation Water Act.

Council meeting in Hill Spring

The Village of Hill Spring has a problem with their irrigation system so Fred was invited to the Council meeting on June 19 for advice and help.

Brandon Gibb MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:00 P.M.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 16, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.


Chairman – Duane Nelson


District Manager – Fred Rice