

Wednesday, February 23, 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 February 23rd, 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 January 24, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the January 24, 2022 Minutes; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the January 2022 Payroll

Duane Nelson MOVED to accept the January 2022 Payroll; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of February 23, 2022 Accounts Payable

Craig B. Smith MOVED to accept the February 23, 2022 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to February 23, 2022

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept February 23, 2022, Financial Statement; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith.
...CARRIED

Audit 2021 – Auditor’s report

Our Auditor Hakon Skoien from Skoien Professional Corporation reviewed the audit with the Board of Directors. Mr. Skoien noted that it was a clean audit, books were done well and from the audit view, balances are reported correctly. The statements were discussed and some differences between 2020 and 2021 were explained.

The UID is showing a surplus for the fiscal year 2021 so the Board of the UID decided to transfer \$216,000 into Restricted District Capital funds which can be used when the company needs it.

Jim Woolf MOVED to transfer \$216,000 from Fund Balance into Restricted District Capital funds. If the district needs to use those funds for operational purposes, funds can be transferred once the motion is carried; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

The year 2021 has quite a few differences compared to other years.

In assets, we can see an increase in investments in amount around \$200,000. In liabilities, we can see a new Promissory Note Payable in the amount of \$180,936.00 which is a loan proceed from Irrigating Alberta Inc. for modernization projects. The current portion of long-term debt is \$47,078.00 which is a loan on high hoe JD 210GLC, however, the last portion of the loan was already paid in February this year.

In the statement of Operations few differences are recorded in other revenues like ratepayer contribution to a capital project of \$22,275.00, grant for Solar System, and Microgreen Energy revenue from Solar System. A noticeable difference between 2020 and 2021 is shown on the Schedule of Operating Expenditures in recoveries due to work on all projects in 2021: IRP # 2298,-Lateral B8, IRP# 2340 - Lateral F7, Modernization projects Lateral A1e and Lateral D1.

Duane Nelson MOVED to accept the audit as presented, SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss. ...CARRIED

Ditch rider's position

Fred thinks that it would be beneficial to the district if Ditch rider's position is a full-time position, and while the employee is not working as a Ditchrider he can work on projects and Operations & Maintenance of the district. Fred was also asking the board for an opinion on hiring Jared to train a new employee. The board agrees with the idea, Fred will speak with Jared if he is interested and available.

The Board of the UID interviewed five applicants for the position during the meeting, however, the decision was not made yet and they will discuss it again at the next regular meeting.

AEP Dam Safety

Dam Safety Team asked the district for information and drawings of our main canal. While they are reviewing Cochrane Lake Dam, some sections of the main canal might fall into the category of the dam. We don't have more information as of today.

Salaries 2021

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to increase salaries by 4% annually for all full-time employees, for Byran Cahoon increase the wage to \$25/hour and for seasonal workers increase the wage to \$22.50/hour for the fiscal year 2022; SECONDED by Duane Nelson. ...CARRIED

Budget 2022

The budget was discussed, a 3% all rates increase was applied and well as an increase in salaries and wages as mentioned above.

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept Budget 2022 as presented; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith.

...CARRIED

Election 2021

One of our Board Members is up for election – Jim Woolf. The nominations need to be submitted by 4:00 pm on March 16, 2022.

Water samplings for 2022

Fred has concerns about water samplings, especially this year when Jared Nelson resigned who did the samplings, delivered them to Lethbridge, and did all the documentation. Each district pays AIDA a "voluntary contribution" of \$0.09 per acre to participate in the water quality testing. Providing water samplings is basically mostly for the credibility of districts. The AIDA offered help with training a new employee. The Board decided to continue with providing water samplings from our district as in previous years.

WaterSmart meeting

Fred participated in a virtual meeting with the WaterSmart team on February 7th, 2022. The team mostly asked questions about our licenses and discussed the demands and system operations of our district for the SSRM updates project. They are also working on a drought simulation exercise which will happen sometime this spring.

Covid-19 virus in the office

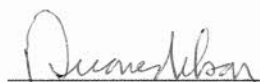
Fred and Steve were tested positive for the Covid-19 virus. Fortunately, their sickness was not severe, they were quarantined according to regulations and are back to work healthy.

Assigning a number to each turnout

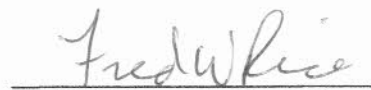
A ratepayer contacted our district with the idea to assign a number to each turnout to prevent misunderstanding when ordering water in summer. Some of the Board members think it is a good idea. Fred is a little bit skeptical that farmers would actually use it and remember it and how to work with numbers when new turnouts are added. The final decision was not made.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 10:00 A.M



Chairman – Duane Nelson



District Manager – Fred Rice