

Monday, December 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 December 18, 2018, commencing at 10:00 A.M.

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

Discussion and Acceptance of the November 19, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept the November 19, 2018 minutes; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the November 2018 Payroll

Craig Smith MOVED to accept the November 2018 Payroll; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of December 18, 2018 Accounts Payable

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

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

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept December 18, 2018 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Craig Smith.
... CARRIED

Water Sharing Agreement Meeting

Fred and Duane attended the Water Sharing Agreement Meeting on December 11, 2018. The second section of the original draft of the agreement has been changed for the UID. According to the agreement Belly River license will not be touched by rationing. The UID should run it as before. Even though there was a shortage of the irrigation water at the end of watering season last couple of years, we haven't implemented rationing.

However the Waterton license can be rationed. 2/3 of the district has storage from Waterton Dam. As Jim mentioned, because the UID received a special consideration we should give the same consideration for our ratepayers. Some of them don't even know we had difficulties to manage and satisfy all ratepayers during the irrigation season.

Mr. Chris Gallagher from TID during the meeting went deep into the explanation about the UID situation and there was no objection.

Duane and Brandon were satisfied with the agreement. The agreements will be signed for the period of five years and each party can opt out or continue with the agreement after each irrigation season. If the UID will sign the agreement, we don't need to worry about complete shut off from Waterton Dam by senior license holders.

Fred wished for Mr. Dave Hunt from Environment at the meeting so the agreement can be discussed with him as well.

Daniel was asking when the junior license was revised last time. Before the last revision there was no minimum flow on the Belly River, after the revision the UID need to keep 33cfs. They also increased the Waterton license to 17,000 acre feet. When the UID will have storage on the Belly River, the minimum flow will change most likely.

We are also the only ones who don't report monthly the use from the Belly River, we do report it annually.

Fred suggested to discuss the agreement with the Village of Glenwood and the Village of Hill Spring as they also have a license.

Brandon Gibb MOVED to write and send a letter of support for Water Sharing Agreement;

SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.

...CARRIED

Christmas party thoughts

Everybody was satisfied with the party and the food.

Template for the sale of irrigation assessed acres

Mr. David McAllister, District manager of the Western ID shared with us their strategy when on selling irrigation assessed acres. The main topic is an Annual Acre Agreement. Those who already have Annual Acre Agreement with the district are serious about irrigation and they already have an infrastructure. Second important subject is an Alternate Acre Agreement.

We need to be careful how to consider those acres. If the acres are considered as a permanent acres, than the district's responsibility is the infrastructure as well as delivering the irrigation water.

The UID will sell irrigation assessed acres when there is enough acres for one pivot.

Daniel suggested to use scoring system-if the ratepayer has for example 60 acres and need another 70 acres to run a pivot then we need to consider him as well.

Fred will prepare a letter for next meeting for ratepayers. The letter will explain irrigation water availability and suggesting to start with land reclassification for irrigation for those who are interested.

"Capital Cost bylaw" needs to be prepared for the next meeting as well.

Craig's good point was that more irrigation acres will make the situation even tighter. Brandon's suggestion was to prepare a scheduling system and a bylaw in near future.

Purchasing Irrigation Assessed Acres

The UID bought 102 irrigation assessed acres in 2018 and is waiting for signed agreement from Mr. Vaughn Smith for another 65.77 acres which will make 167.77 irrigation assessed acres to sell. He offered to sell these acres, because he is building a campground on his property and will need irrigation water just for campground. Therefore those acres can be used somewhere else.

New tires for the Heavy Hauler Trailer

New tires were bought for the Heavy Hauler 98 Kenworth Doonan Trailer from Kirk's Tire. The Board members were discussing if rotating tires will save them or not, so they can be used for longer period of time.

IRP 2298 Lateral B8

Stage 1 work completed on Lateral B8 except fencing which will be finished in spring 2019. We are not planning any progress on this project in spring as we have used all IRP funding. The project should be finished in fall 2019.

Bow River Irrigation District expansion

The UID received a newsletter informing us about the Bow River ID expansion which is 35,000 acres. In fact this expansion is bigger than our whole district. It is our understanding that when acres are sold to the ratepayers and used for irrigation, they will be counted into rehabilitation acres subject to the Irrigation Rehabilitation Program funding.

The Board and management of the UID are really concerned about expansions in other districts as this directly lowers our government funding.


The ratepayers of the UID will be informed at the AGM in 2019 and warned that time with no government funding might come. The letter expressing concerns about expansion acres from the UID's Board will be sent to the Irrigation Council.

Eligibility to be on the Board - Irrigation District Act Section 35 (1-3)

The Board was discussing the Section 35 about Eligibility to be on the Board.

Brandon Gibb MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 28, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.


Chairman - Duane Nelson


District Manager - Fred Rice