

Monday, April 19, 2021, 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 April 19, 2021, commencing at 10:00 A.M

Present: Duane Nelson – Chairman
Daniel Hunsperger – Vice-Chairman
Jim Woolf – Board Member
Craig B. Smith – Board Member
Fred Rice – District Manager
Viera Ducky – Office Manager
Nicholas Barfuss – Board Member – absent

Covid-19 provincial health guidelines were followed during the meeting.

Discussion and Acceptance of March 17, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the March 17, 2021 Minutes; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the March 2021 Payroll

Craig B. Smith MOVED to accept the March 2021 Payroll; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of April 19, 2021 Accounts Payable

Duane Nelson MOVED to accept the April 19, 2021 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to April 19, 2021

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept April 19, 2021 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith.
...CARRIED

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Fred welcomed Duane Nelson and Daniel Hunsperger on the Board of Directors of the United Irrigation District. Duane and Daniel were elected by acclamation for another election term.

Fred called for nominations for Chairman. Jim Woolf Nominated Duane Nelson. Seconded by Craig B. Smith. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that Nominations cease. Duane Nelson elected Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Duane called for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Jim Woolf Nominated Daniel Hunsperger. Seconded by Craig B. Smith. Duane Nelson MOVED that Nominations cease. Daniel Hunsperger elected Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Request for a permit to use the bank of our canal as a walking/bike path

In the email from Don Shideler, the Twin Rivers Country Economic Development Society requested the Board of the UID for permission to use the bank of our canal as a walking/bike path. The same interest is also shown from the Village of Hill Spring council.

The Board discussed the matter in details and is concerned about the liability if someone will fall or get hurt even drown in our canal. Therefore, the Board does not give permission for use of the canal or driving bank for walking/bike paths.

UID's Annual General Meeting on March 17, 2021 – thoughts

The AGM this year was a zoom meeting hosted by Margo Jarvis Redelback. Fred thanked Margo again for helping with the meeting and asked the Board about their thoughts. The Board members think that the meeting was as good as it could be expected. Jennifer Nitschelm said that it was very well done. We received good reviews from some of our ratepayers as well.

Solar system for the UID

Work on the project is finished, the final invoice for the solar system was paid, the meter was changed by Fortis Alberta, and Jeff Gibb helped us to extend Wi-Fi to solar panels. The UID is prequalified for grant and post-project applications will be unlocked soon.

Mitch Merrill buying assessed acres from Lynn Bishop

Fred spoke with Mitch about sharing and rotating irrigation water on A Lateral. Mitch wants to cooperate with the UID. He has now only 69.17 extra assessed acres on Lateral A not counting Annual Acre Agreement. He also has another 225 assessed acres for flood irrigation on Lateral A.

Jim Woolf MOVED to let Bar Double M Ranching transfer 123.17 to Lateral A into various spots as per his request. The UID may ask Bar Double M Ranching to build a dugout in the future; SECONDED by Duane Nelson. ...CARRIED

Accounts Receivable

Ratepayers Dan Fox, James Welch, George Porter & Richard Hornby paid their full rates for 2020; Cam Francis, Larry Lybbert, Elbert Paxman, and Anthony Stephan still owe the UID rates for 2020. Statements will be sent out again and new penalties will be implemented on July 1.

Rate Enforcement Procedure

Duane Nelson MOVED to implement the Rate Enforcement Procedure for our district as submitted; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

CIB Loan

Hard close on the CIB loan is supposed to be on June 23rd. We will not submit any progress certificates until all easements for the projects are signed and we might wait until the hard close day. Each district needs to cover 100% of the cost of the project upfront and will be reimbursed 80% back after submitting progress certificates.

Award from Alberta Government

The Honorable Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Agriculture & Forestry invited one representative from each Irrigation District for a short ceremony to thank all participants in Alberta's Recovery Plan – A transformational investment in Alberta irrigation for \$825,000,000. Duane Nelson and Fred Rice each received awards for the UID – a plaque.

Amendments to Irrigation District Act

Tom MacLachlan, MMH Lawyers LLP forwarded the email about a proposed amendment to Irrigation Act. If passed, Bill 54, the *Irrigation Districts Amendment Act*, will allow irrigation districts to borrow funds for large-scale expansions of their irrigation works, increase confidence for financial lenders, and lead to more consistent, secure access to funding for irrigation districts.

AIDA Board of Directors meeting

Duane and Fred participated in the AIDA virtual meeting on April 1, 2021. One of the matters discussed was AIDA's participation in helping Alberta Environment & Parks to make a deal for future funding.

Discussion with John McKee about AIDA's meeting

Kelvin Kado sent us minutes from AIDA's meeting, however, they are the same minutes that we are receiving from AIDA. Fred met John McKee and he will send us his reports. We haven't received them yet.

QGIS updating

Jeff Lowry from Wilde Brother Engineering came to update our QGIS mapping system. He downloaded newer aerial photos from Cardston County, updated documents from Altalis, and made some changes in the system. We will also add new turnout numbers to the system.

Ordering pens with the UID logo

We received the offer for ordering pens with the UID logo. The Board suggested ordering 200 pens.

Ditchriders checking ditches in April

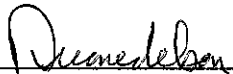
Our Ditchriders start with usual checking and cleaning all ditches at the beginning of May each year. Fred was asking the Board if they can start earlier, possibly in the last weeks of April. If they will be using their trucks, they need to be reimbursed for expenses. Board would prefer using UID’s trucks if starting earlier than in May.

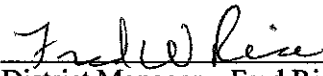
Engineering of F Lateral Emergency Overflow

As the project above was approved by Irrigation Council, we would like Darin Wilde to start with engineering.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, May 17, 2021, at 10:00 A.M


Chairman – Duane Nelson


District Manager – Fred Rice