

**Monday, October 21, 2019 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 October 21, 2019, commencing at 10:00 A.M.

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

**Discussion and Acceptance of the September 16, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept the September 16, 2019 Minutes; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.  
...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of the September 2019 Payroll**

Craig Smith MOVED to accept the September 2019 Payroll; SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.  
...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of October 21, 2019 Accounts Payable**

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept October 21, 2019 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.  
...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to October 21, 2019**

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept October 21, 2019 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.  
... CARRIED

**Lynn Bishop from L&S Enterprises at the meeting**

Lynn Bishop attended the meeting to discuss his requests again. He mentioned the letter in which the UID offered to buy irrigation assessed acres, \$750/acre. He explained that Mitch Merrill is looking to buy assessed acres and because Mr. Bishop thinks the price is too low, he wants to sell those acres privately. He is convinced that his acres will never be irrigated on those parcels, so someone else could use the assessed acres to irrigate the agricultural land. However the Board of the UID needs to approve the decision to remove assessed acres from the land.

In this case, Fred and Board members are concerned. The infrastructure was rehabilitated under IRP project in 2014 and at that time Mr. Bishop definitely wanted to keep assessed acres for the future use. The UID is responsible for investment and doesn't want to risk and get a fine from government. Fred will contact Irrigation Council and ask for direction on limitation to remove irrigation assessed acres from rehabilitated land. The Board also see his decision as a very short vision sight, new owner might use assessed acres for irrigation in the future.

The Board agrees with the combining these lands into the Irrigable Unit: Pt. SE 10-5-27-W4 (127.08 acres) and Plan 0011818, Block 1, Lot 2 (9.1 acres).

Jim Woolf MOVED to combine Pt. SE 10-5-27-W4 and Plan 0011818, block 1, Lot 2 into the Irrigable Unit. SECONDED by Duane Nelson.  
...CARRIED

According to lengthen and widen culvert on Lateral F, the Board decided to reject the request. During rehabilitation the UID installed the standard approach and if Mr. Bishop bought bigger machinery which needs wider access, he needs to install it at his cost.

**Appeal Hearing - September 11, 2019 at 10:00 AM at the Provincial Building in Lethbridge**

The Irrigation Council Appeal Panel released the Notice of Decision on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The Decision Section (43) says "The Appeal Panel rescinds the decision of the UID setting the fees charged to RV campgrounds in its Fee Bylaw." One of the reasons for the decision is that \$10 per site method for campground is not fair and equitable. Therefore the Board decided to pass a new Bylaw No.8-2019 which would stay equal rate of \$2,313 for each campground for the 2019 for up to 5 acre feet of irrigation water.

To know how much water will each campground use, we will lock the turnouts in the future and campgrounds need to call us to open it. That way our ditch rider know when they use water and he can estimate the usage quite accurately.

**Passing new Bylaw No.5-2019 and Bylaw No.8-2019**

**By-Law No. 8-2019 – Water Conveyance Fee to RV Campgrounds without a Water Licence as a result from Appeal to Water Use Fee Bylaw No. 5-2019**

The By-Law was read the First Time by Daniel Hunsperger. Jim Woolf MOVED to read the second time. Brandon Gibb SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the Second Time by Jim Woolf. Craig Smith MOVED to read the third time.

Daniel Hunsperger SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the Third Time by Brandon Gibb. ... PASSED

One member abstained.

**Managers Meeting – September 19, 2019**

Fred attended the meeting and these topic were discussed:

- Barge on St.Mary Dam – the barge from Alberta Agriculture was not inspected and ready to work on the tunnel at St. Mary Dam. Invasive species of mussels were found on the surface of the barge so it's good that it was caught on time.
- Appeal from our district – there were a few other districts which needed to deal with the appeal in the past. They all agree to hire a lawyer when the district need to deal with an appeal.

**Ben Layton – Land Irrigability Classification**

When Direct-Ag Services Ltd. switched from agricultural to recreational land use, 6.4 acres were supposed to be removed from the land but were not. The acres needs to be removed from this land, therefore the UID can offer them for sale to Ben Layton and the Board agree to sell him the rest 3.2 acres as he needs 9.6 acres to irrigate the land on NE 35-4-27-W4. The classification for irrigation was already done.

**Christmas party 2019**

Christmas dinner for the Board members, employees, guests and their spouses will be held at the Hill Spring Community Hall on November 22, 2019 at 7:00pm. Wendy & Tom Nish will cater the meal.

**Code of Conduct**

AIDA forwarded a Code of Conduct template developed by AIDA Executive Committee and approved this template for voluntary use by Irrigation District Boards. Districts can use any or all of the document in the development of their own Code. Our Board members have this template and will discuss it at the next meeting.

**Letter of support to Bill 211 – Mandatory Registration of Buried Infrastructure Legislation**

AIDA urged Irrigation Districts to write a Letter of support to Bill 211 based on presentation given by the Alberta Common Ground Alliance. The UID sent the letter at the end of September. What Bill 211 means is that if other party will damage your infrastructure, it needs to be recorded.

**Oldman Watershed Council is asking for donation**

As a non-profit, charitable organization, the Oldman Watershed Council is asking for donation of \$250 for the year. The UID donated that amount last year and is considering to donate this year as well. The Board decided to wait until the district will receive IRP funding from the government.

**Southgrow Regional Economic Development – Water Security Forum 2019**

The UID was invited to the event on November 7, 2019 in Lethbridge. Fred will attend, Jim, Brandon and Daniel are considering to be there as well.

**AIDA Board Meeting - September 26, 2019**

Fred and Duane attended the meeting. Meeting was brief and one of the topics discussed was planned MLA Reception. The AIDA hired company to organize the event and 16 MLA members should meet with the districts at the reception.

**AIDA & AEP meeting - October 24, 2019 at LNID Lethbridge**

AIDA meeting with Kathleen Murphy and Irrigation Districts will be focused on concerns/issues relating to drainage. Fred is planning to attend the meeting.

**2019 AIDA MLA Reception in Edmonton – November 19, 2019**

The reception will be held this year again in Edmonton. Fred and Brandon are planning to represent our district at the reception.

**AIDA AGM – November 28, 2019 at the Sandman Lethbridge Lodge Hotel;**

**1:00 – 3:00 pm Phase II filling Session specific to Irrigation Districts with Fortis Alberta**

Fred is planning to attend both meetings.

**Fortis Alberta – Proposed Fortis Alberta 2020 Distribution Rates**

The proposed rates received from Fortis Alberta were forwarded to the Board for review. Most of them have increased.

**IRP Funding**

We will find out at the end of October if the UID will get any IRP funding this year. It is already too late to order PVC pipe for the project for this year. Fred was asking the Board how much we want to spend on engineering for Lateral F7. This is a continuing project and we were planning to work on it next year, however finishing IRP#2298 – Lateral B8 is moved for next year.

The Board advised to work on engineering this year up to \$10,000 and rest can be done next year.

**Duane’s conversation with Bruce Wynder about fencing along the canal**

Darcy Barfuss is willing to cooperate and move bulls from the land when Bruce’s cows will be there, however Bruce Wynder seems to be fed up with this problem and he insists on fence.

Brandon pointed again that this is not a problem for the UID. Fred will bring one bundle of fence posts to Bruce as promised in the past and it was forgotten.

Brandon Gibb MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:40 P.M.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 25, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

  
Chairman – Duane Nelson

  
District Manager – Fred Rice