

Monday, February 24, 2025, 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 24th, 2025, 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, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the January 24, 2025 Minutes; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the January 2025 Payroll

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the January 2025 Payrolls; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of February 24, 2025 Accounts Payable

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the February 24, 2025 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Craig Smith.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to February 24, 2025

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept February 24, 2025, Financial Statement; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Audit 2024 – Auditor’s report

The audit was presented by auditor Hakon Skoien, Skoien Professional Corporation, and was discussed by the Board.

Mr. Skoien noted that it was a clean audit, the books were done well, and from the audit view, balances were reported correctly. No indication of control deficiency.

The fiscal year 2025 was successful, finished with a surplus, and \$400,000 was transferred into an internally restricted fund for future use. The sale of 362 permanent acres and equipment and labor recovery from Irrigation Rehabilitation Projects were the important factors contributing to the surplus.

The CIB loan at National Bank was fully paid on January 29th, 2024.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the audited financial statements as presented; SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss.
...CARRIED

Mistakes in invoicing

During the audit of 2024, Mr. Skoien noticed a couple of errors in the invoiced amounts for irrigation acres. The affected ratepayers were charged the wrong amount and a credit memo was created to correct the mistake. The auditor suggested a solution to avoid this error while creating the next invoices.

2025 AIDA Conference

Fred was the only one attending the conference this year. The conference was informative and interesting as usual. Besides the conference, Fred had a few meetings during that time. One of them was with Paul Elser and Elizabeth Smith to discuss how to prepare for a feasibility study for the Proposed Belly River Reservoir and the Bottleneck project from Waterton Reservoir to St.Mary’s Canal.

AIDA AGM meeting

The scheduled meeting for the first day of the AIDA Conference was canceled due to an emergency meeting for the Water Sharing Agreement meeting and was rescheduled for April 3rd in the Lethbridge area.

Southwest Irrigation District amalgamation

Another meeting Fred attended during the conference was with Ryan Vadnais, District Manager of SWID. He enquired if the UID would be willing to amalgamate with SWID. The Board of the UID would like to invite SWID representatives with their proposal before starting further discussion.

Budget 2025

The budget was discussed, and an increase in irrigation rates and an increase in salaries and wages was applied as well as other expected changes. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept Budget 2025 as presented; SECONDED by Craig Smith. ...CARRIED

Marie Barfuss' land subdivision

As the land is going to be subdivided, the county has a bylaw that the subdivision needs to be re-zoned to single-lot country residential for the purpose of two residential lots. However, Darcy Barfuss who is farming the land wants to keep it as agricultural and still use 40.74 assessed acres on the land. The proposed subdivision will make two parcels of 30 acres and 18.94 acres. Darcy will attend the county's meeting and will let us know about their decision.

Gravel truck at Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers

Fred found two reasonable gravel trucks which will be at auction on Wednesday, February 26th in Edmonton. The Board agrees that Fred should go to Edmonton and make the observation on trucks. We would accept a price of up to \$36,000 for the truck.

Ideas for the UID AGM 2025

The Board had a few ideas for topics to discuss as follows: a new water measuring website, a Proposed Belly River Reservoir, Water Sharing Agreement.

Election 2025

One of our Board Member's term is up for election – Jim Woolf. The nominations need to be submitted by 4:00 pm on March 26, 2025.

United Irrigation District Bylaw 2025

Bylaw No. 7-2025 – Capital Assets Charge Bylaw

The Bylaw was read for the first time by Daniel Hunsperger. Duane Nelson MOVED to read the second time. Nicholas Barfuss SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the second time by Jim Woolf. Craig Smith MOVED to read the third time. Duane Nelson SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the third time by Nicholas Barfuss. ...PASSED

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:10 P.M.
Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, March 26th, 2025, at 10:00 A.M


Chairman – Duane Nelson


District Manager – Fred Rice