

Monday, January 24, 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 January 24th, 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 December 20, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the December 20, 2021 Minutes with amendments; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of January 12, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the January 12, 2022 Minutes with amendments; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the December 2021 Payroll

Craig B. Smith MOVED to accept the December 2021 Payroll; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of January 24, 2022 Accounts Payable

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the January 24, 2022 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to January 24, 2022

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept January 24, 2022, Financial Statement; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Virtual meeting with AEP Dam Safety team and the UID

The zoom meeting was scheduled for 10:00 am with Jenna Montgomery and other members of the team for Dam Safety and our Board of Directors and Fred. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss what the UID needs to do in order to be in compliance with the regulations.

After the initial introduction, Jenna explained the table that she had sent us previously. She explained that AEP has not changed its requirements since 2015 when dam safety inventory was done, however, they added consequence classification. AEP needs to be aware what can happen in case there is a sudden release of water from Cochrane Lake and what kind of risks are there. If there are any possible risks, there needs to be an emergency preparedness plan in place.

The Board members explained why they do not agree with Cochrane Lake being a dam of high consequences and the UID would like AEP to change the ranking of our dam.

The UID might even change the way how we operate the lake. The Board has concerns about the cost for all documents and inspections which can not be done by the UID.

No decisions were made and the AEP will connect with the UID again.

Craig B. Smith will contact Dennis Prince as he might be a qualified engineer for this kind of work.

Tools for the UID

Fred asked the Board for an opinion whether to buy 1” cordless impact which would cost around \$1,400.00 and would be very useful. He also asked whether to buy a leaf blower to clean the snow off the solar panels. After discussion, the Board agreed to buy the cordless impact but not the leaf blower. A simple broom with a long handle is much more efficient to clean the snow because the blower cannot reach the top of the panels anyway.

Salaries 2022

The inflation rate for Alberta in 2021 was 4.3%. The Board discussed salaries for full-time employees but the final decision has not been made.

Ditchrider's position

Fred was asking the Board for an opinion on Ditchrider's position, what kind of position it needs to be, full-time or only for irrigation season? He would prefer at least a seasonal position and there needs to be at least three months long initial period of probation.

Accounts receivable for rates from 2020 and 2021

All rates for 2020 were paid by the end of December 2020.

The accounts receivable for rates from 2021 are \$5,758.02 as of today and ratepayers who owe the UID are: Fox, Francis, and McLeod.

Water rates for 2022

Annually, the Board discusses the water rates for the upcoming year. Based on the financial commitment related to modernization projects, our district will need to increase rates by at least 3% each year until the loan is fully repaid.

United Irrigation District Bylaw 2022

a. Bylaw No. 1-2022 – Remuneration

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

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

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

The motion for a 3% increase failed with 2 votes in favor and 3 against.

b. Bylaw No. 2-2022 – Rate Bylaw

The Bylaw was read for the first time by Jim Woolf. Craig B. Smith MOVED to read the second time. Nicholas Barfuss SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the second time by Duane Nelson. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to read the third time. Craig B. Smith SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the third time by Craig B. Smith. ...PASSED

c. Bylaw No. 3-2022 – Water Conveyance Fee Bylaw

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

Read the second time by Nicholas Barfuss. Craig B. Smith MOVED to read the third time. Jim Woolf SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the third time by Jim Woolf. ...PASSED

d. Bylaw No. 4-2022 – Household Purpose Fee Bylaw

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

Read the second time by Craig Smith. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to read the third time. Nicholas Barfuss SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the third time by Duane Nelson. ...PASSED

e. Bylaw No. 5-2022 – Water Conveyance Fee to Users without a Water License and Rural Water Use Fee Bylaw

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

Read the second time by Nicholas Barfuss. Jim Woolf MOVED to read the third time. Craig B. Smith SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the third time by Daniel Hunsperger. ...PASSED

f. Bylaw No. 6-2022 – RV Campgrounds

The Bylaw was read for the first time by Craig B. Smith. Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to read the second time. Daniel Hunsperger SECONDED. ...CARRIED

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

Read the third time by Jim Woolf. ...PASSED

All rates increased by exactly 3% for all categories for the fiscal year 2022 except Bylaw No. 5-2022 Section(e) and (f).

Scholarship 2022

The Board discussed the option to offer a Scholarship in 2022. They have decided not to offer the scholarship this year to any school.

Fraud issues or concerns in 2021

As every year Fred brought to the Board the question of whether anyone is aware of any fraud or concerns as this is one of the questions from the auditor. No concerns were raised.

Oldman Watershed Council

The Oldman Watershed Council is kindly asking for ongoing support in a letter from January 4, 2022. Their suggestion is a standardized rate of 3.2cents per irrigated acre.

Craig B. Smith MOVED that the UID will support Oldman Watershed Council in the amount of \$250; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association

As this association requested participation from the mountain districts, Fred made initial contact with them. They suggested a zoom meeting with our district in February. Board is not interested to attend the meeting.

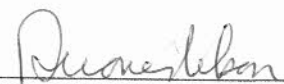
Letter from Al McEwen


Alan delivered us a letter where he is inquiring about the possibility of obtaining additional water rights. He is planning to subdivide the parcel on NE 20-5-27-W4 which is under his farm company name: 412199 Alberta Ltd. He is looking for around 25 acres at the Waterton River bottom. The land is not presently assessed for irrigation. The water source for this parcel would come of their existing pivot.

The Board reviewed the letter and we will respond to Mr. McEwen. First, the land needs to be classified for irrigation, and then he needs to purchase permanent assessed acres to be transferred onto his property. If the classification proves that the land can be irrigated, the Board will permit to supply water via the pivot pipeline. The UID does not have any assessed acres for sale currently.

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:35 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 10:00 A.M


Chairman – Duane Nelson


District Manager – Fred Rice