

Monday, December 20, 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 December 20th, 2021, 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 November 29, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the November 29, 2021 Minutes with amendments; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the November 2021 Payroll

Duane Nelson MOVED to accept the November 2021 Payroll; SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss. ...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of December 20, 2021 Accounts Payable

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the December 20, 2021 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to December 20, 2021

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept December 20, 2021, Financial Statement; SECONDED by Jim Woolf. ...CARRIED

Cochrane Lake Dam report from the inspection

The UID received the letter about the Dam Safety Audit Inspection Results for Cochrane Lake Dam from Alberta Environment and Parks as a result of the inspection in August 2021. As per the letter, the inspection identified no visible safety deficiencies that require our immediate attention. However, because they identify Cochrane Lake as a dam with a high consequence, the UID needs to take some steps to be in compliance with the regulations. Cochrane Lake is off-stream water storage like a leveling pond.

A zoom meeting is scheduled for January 24th, 2022 with Mrs. Jenna Montgomery, Dam Safety Technologist from AEP to discuss UID's dam and canal inventory, consequence classifications, and current dam safety program.

Our engineer Darin Wilde who is not qualified to provide the inspection of the dam suggested Wood Engineering to ask for cooperation with this specific matter. Fred communicated with Stephen Van Essen, P.Eng from Wood Engineering, and asked for a full quotation for the work.

Duane expressed the idea that we need to contact MLA Joseph Schow to help us to reclassify the lake because the Board doesn't feel it is a dam of high consequence. The Board agreed to invite Mr. Schow for the meeting with the Board of the UID.

Money transfer from National Bank for modernization projects

Funds for modernization project Lateral A1e and Lateral D1 in the amount of \$288,500 were moved from National Bank to our general account, which means the loan from it is around \$180,310. We will still make another transfer for these projects next year when progress certificates for 2021 are finalized.

RMA Insurance – cyber liability

A new kind of insurance was submitted to the UID – cyber liability in the amount of \$772.50 per year. The Board agrees to get this insurance.

Powerline hit by a UID's hoe at Darcy Barfuss' property

Fred hit the powerline at Darcy's when they were pushing posts on Lateral D1 and we found out later that it caused a power surge to Darcy's phase-converter, causing it to burn out which will cost about \$3,998.00. Duane Nelson MOVED to pay Darcy Barfuss' for the damage caused by the UID; SECONDED by Jim Woolf. The motion was passed with one Board member abstaining from voting. ...CARRIED

Update on Lateral F7 and Lateral D1 projects

Trash racks were built and installed on both projects as well as catwalks were installed. We paid the bill to Riverside Colony for installing 1.75 miles of fence on Lateral F7.

Office closure for holidays

The UID's office will be closed for holidays from December 23rd, 2021 until January 3rd, 2021 including.

Christmas bonuses for employees

Christmas bonuses for full-time and one seasonal employee were approved.

Duane Nelson MOVED to pay a Christmas bonus to Jared Nelson, Steve Lybbert, and Byran Cahoon in the amount of \$150 net, to Viera Ducky in the amount of \$500 net, and to Fred Rice long time service gift in form of a traveling voucher in the amount of \$1,000; SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss. ...CARRIED

Moving Ditchriders' leftover vacation time to next year

Our Ditchriders Jared Nelson and Steve Lybbert were not able to use their vacation time for 2021 as the crew was busy working on projects this year.

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED that Ditchriders' remaining vacation time will be moved to the next year 2022; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

Bylaw No. 8-2021 Date of Election and date of Annual General Meeting for the UID

Duane Nelson MOVED that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, the AGM is subject to Covid-19 regulations which may change at any time and the Election will be held on April 6, 2022, if needed; SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss. ...CARRIED

Bylaw No. 8-2021 Date of Election

The Bylaw was read the first time by Duane Nelson. Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to read the second time.

Jim Woolf SECONDED. ...CARRIED

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

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

...PASSED

Motion to appoint an auditor for the fiscal year 2021

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that Skoein Profesional Corporation be appointed as auditor for the fiscal year 2021; SECONDED by Duane Nelson. ...CARRIED

Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association

AIDA forwarded us the letter from Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association. The letter is inviting irrigation districts to participate in planning for the reserve. One of the options was to participate in a survey that Fred already completed. The other option is an in-person conversation or presentation and we will most likely participate in that as well.

Water used out of the Belly River

Fred informed the Board about the water usage in 2021 – 23,348 acre-feet out of the Belly River and 5,786 acre-feet out of the Waterton River which is in total 29,135 acre-feet.

Water Law Seminar

On December 1st McMillan LLP organized Water Law Seminar online for all irrigation districts as the first seminar from the Water Law series. Fred and Duane attended the webinar.

AIDA's Annual General Meeting

The AIDA held its AGM online meeting on December 9th, 2021. Fred, Nick, and Daniel attended the virtual meeting. One of the main topics discussed at the meeting was a change in yearly voluntary contribution to the AIDA - \$0.07/acre extra for each district. The contribution will be used for Federal Lobby Engagement related to the modernization projects.

Dam Safety Seminar


On December 16th the Alberta Environment and Parks started with Dam Safety webinar series in partnership with the Canadian Dam Association. These technical webinars will be held monthly through March 2022. Fred attended the event.

DDIT data


The DDIT data and flow meters information for 2021 were submitted to Alberta Agriculture as per their request each year.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 12:25 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, January 24, 2022, at 10:00 A.M



Chairman – Duane Nelson



District Manager – Fred Rice