

Monday, October 26, 2020, 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 October 26, 2020, commencing at 10:00 A.M

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

Discussion and Acceptance of September 21, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes

Craig B. Smith MOVED to accept the September 21, 2020 Minutes; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the September 2020 Payroll

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the September 2020 Payroll; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of October 26, 2020 Accounts Payable

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the October 26, 2020 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to October 26, 2020

Craig B. Smith MOVED to accept October 26, 2020 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss.

...CARRIED

Lloyd Smith's concerns about not treating employees fairly

Lloyd came to the meeting to learn about the decisions the Board made after the discussion during the last meeting.

Fred contacted two different sources and ask for the written confirmation/explanation according to paid or unpaid break, however, each time they sent us only a link to their website multiple times. Changes to Employees Handbook were already made as the Board agreed at the last meeting.

The cut-off day for monthly payroll was discussed as well and these changes might be done for a new fiscal year.

Lloyd suggested to check and sign working hours daily between workers and Fred(with ½ h accuracy). He is satisfied with the actions and changes made by the UID.

Irrigation Infrastructure Accelerated Rehabilitation Projects

Further consultations were made via conference calls on October 8th with Tom MacLachlan from MMH Lawyers LLP and Tim Phillipotts from EY; Fred took part in the call.

The initial expansion in our district was considered for 240 acres, however, the UID needs to consider 500 acres expansion to make the model from the CIB work. For this expansion, the UID will need a plebiscite in the future.

New IRP Projects for the Annual Rolling Three-year plan

The Board discussed all projects again and because Fred knows the district best, he will choose between the first three submitted projects: Emergency Drain on F Lateral, Pump from AEP canal to supply B Lateral, and F Lateral open ditch. Fred and Viera will work on the plan to be ready for approval at the next meeting.

Fred's injury

Fred had an injury on October 22 in the morning while working on the Lateral B8 project which required surgery the same day. Surprisingly he is back in the office, but not able to work outside on the project. Fred asked the Board how we should handle his payment, as a regular work or through the WCB? The Board agrees to pay him regular wage as he is working full-time in the office and supervising work on the project.

Proposed meeting on October 30, 2020

A meeting with Deputy Minister Andre Tremblay in Lethbridge is planned for this Friday, October 30, 2020. Fred and Duane are planning to attend, but if Fred is not able to make it, Daniel and Duane will attend.

CIB district site visit

CIB professionals are planning to visit each district to discuss the proposed projects and they should visit the UID on Wednesday, October 28, 2020

AIDA Board Meeting on September 29, 2020

The meeting took place at Bos Sod Farms at 1:00 PM and EID's concern was one of the discussed topics. Fred and four of our Board Members attended the meeting.

Investment update from ATB Wealth

Darren Tanner, Financial Advisor from ATB Wealth provided us with an update about our UID's investments in ATB Wealth. The annualized return in the last twelve months was 5.73% and since January 2020 the return is 4.6%.

Pictures from the Expanding Irrigation Announcement

Premier Jason Kenney and Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Devin Dreeshen announced the major investment in irrigation infrastructure in the province in Calgary on October 9, 2020. Alberta's government, together with the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB) and eight irrigation districts are modernizing irrigation infrastructure.

Fred and Daniel attended the event. The pictures from the announcement were shown to the Board.

Christmas dinner 2020

The Board decided to hold Christmas dinner for the employees, the Board Members, and few guests with their spouses on November 27, 2020, at Hill Spring Community Hall. Jim suggested Jim Rowley, a local source for catering.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 12:55 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, November 16, 2020, at 10:00 A.M


Chairman – Duane Nelson


District Manager – Fred Rice