

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

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

Discussion and Acceptance of the January 20, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept the January 20, 2020 Minutes; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the January 2020 Payroll

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the January 2020 Payroll; SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of February 26, 2020 Accounts Payable

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the February 26, 2020 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

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

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the February 26, 2020 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Audit 2019 – Auditor’s report

Our Auditor Hakon Skoien from Skoien Professional Corporation reviewed the audit with the Board of Directors. Mr. Skoien noted that it was a clean audit, books were done well and from the audit view balances are reported correctly. Few weaknesses were pointed out to be improved. The statements were discussed and some differences between 2018 and 2019 were explained.

The UID had a surplus in 2019 which was the outcome of a few different reasons: Sale of assessed acres, one-time operation funding from government and unrealized gain from our investments. The Board is considering to transfer \$39,852 to the restricted fund for future use, but haven’t made the final decision yet.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the audit as presented, SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.
...CARRIED

UID’s Investments

The Board will discuss possible transfer of investments to one financial advisor to reduce fee during the next meetings.

Accounts receivable

Three ratepayers still owe payments to the UID for rates from 2018. Their statements and registered letters which explained the Rate Enforcement process were sent out and Fred will contact them again. Five ratepayers owe rates for 2019, however those are not critical as for now.

Hengerer Farms

- Hengerer Farms bought 12 new pivots and almost all the crossings for new pivots are different from those used before. The UID crew will remove 4 crossings and Mr. Hengerer will replace them with 4 bridges. The UID will remove the old culverts and save them for Hengerer Farms. Hengerer Farms will hire the UID to relocate 2 culvert crossings.

- Mr. Hengerer is planning to replace an open ditch on Lateral C with an open pipeline. He is offering to buy 48" pipe and is asking the UID to install the pipe and backfill it. The entire cost for the UID should be around \$70,000 but the UID will benefit from the finished project. The infrastructure will be UID's capital improvement and maintenance for this part of our infrastructure will be significantly reduced.

Duane was pointed out that the project should be engineered. The Board discussed Mr. Hengerer's offer and thinks he should pay for some of the engineering and haul the dirt that will be required and do the landscaping. Fred will meet with him to discuss this matter.

Scholarship for Grade 9/12 Students in 2020

The Board members mostly agree with offering Scholarship as a way to support young people and to make a good PR-Public Relation. However, they hope the students applying for the scholarship will do more research and put more effort into the writing the essays. The topic for essays will be discussed.

Lloyd Smith wants a permission to transfer acres

Lloyd Smith wants permission to transfer 10 assessed acres from NW 24-4-28-W4 to SE 5-4-27-W4 which is southeast of Strawberry Lake. The land belongs to Bar Double M Ranching and Mr. Merrill would like to buy assessed acres if the transfer is approved.

Brandon Gibb MOVED to allow Lloyd Smith's transfer of 10 assessed acres from NW 24-4-28-W4 to SE 5-4-27-W4; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. One member abstained. ...CARRIED

Letters informing about the Boards decision will be sent out to Mr. Smith and Mr. Merrill.

Wages 2020

To discuss wages 2020 Brandon Gibb MOVED to go in camera; SECONDED by Craig Smith. ...CARRIED

After they came out of camera meeting:

Jim Woolf MOVED to increase 3% wage for each full-time employee retroactively for fiscal year 2020. Viera Ducky will have one more week vacation and her wage increase will be just the remaining difference, around 1%; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith. ...CARRIED

United Irrigation District Bylaw 2020

a. Bylaw No. 1-2020 – Renumeration

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. Craig Smith MOVED to read the third time. Jim Woolf SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the third time by Brandon Gibb. ...PASSED

b. Bylaw No. 2-2020 – Rate Bylaw

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

Read the second time by Brandon Gibb. Duane Nelson MOVED to read the third time. Brandon Gibb SECONDED. ...CARRIED

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

c. Bylaw No. 3-2020 – Water Conveyance Fee Bylaw

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

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

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

d. Bylaw No. 4-2020 – Household Purpose Fee Bylaw

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

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

- Read the third time by Duane Nelson. ...PASSED
- e. **Bylaw No. 5-2020 – 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. Brandon Gibb MOVED to read the second time. Craig Smith SECONDED. ...CARRIED
 Read the second time by Craig Smith. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to read the third time. Jim Woolf SECONDED. ...CARRIED
 Read the third time by Daniel Hunsperger. ...PASSED
- f. **Bylaw No. 6-2020 – RV Campgrounds**
 The Bylaw was read for the first time by Duane Nelson. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to read the second time. Brandon Gibb SECONDED. ...CARRIED
 Read the second time by Daniel Hunsperger. Jim Woolf MOVED to read the third time. Duane Nelson SECONDED. ...CARRIED
 Read the third time by Craig Smith. ...PASSED

All rates were increased by exactly 3% for all categories for fiscal year 2020.

Budget 2020

The Budget was briefly discussed, adjustments will be made and final version prepared for approval at next meeting.

Brandon Gibb’ decision

Brandon’s term is up for election and he announced his resignation as a Board Director due to his relocation from this area. Brandon is moving away with his family and wouldn’t be able to attend Regular Board meetings. The Board thanked Brandon for his work during his years on the Board and wished him all the best in his future. We will miss Brandon on the Board.

2020 AIDA Conference

Alberta Irrigation District Association Conference took place on February 3-5, 2020 in Lethbridge. Fred, Jim, Jared and Viera attended the event. Plant Proteins Trends in Irrigated Agriculture was a major topic of discussion as it affects all Southern Alberta Agriculture. The conference was very successful and informative. Jason Nixon, Minister of Environment and Parks was able to attend the conference and give us a valuable speech.

AIDA award of the year went to Harold Unruh from Western Irrigation District.

AIDA Inter District Tour 2020

The Inter-District Tour 2020 is planned to be at the UID on June 3rd alternatively June 23rd. Fred prepared the draft of Agenda for the tour, Duane contacted Riverside Colony to request a tour of their new Dairy Barn and they agreed. Jim will contact Jim Rowley for catering the lunch for guests which will be at Spring Glen Park. Duane would like to move alternate date to June 10th if possible.

Budget call meeting

The call meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2020 at 6:50 PM.

Pipe locator

Fred found some information about the pipe locator.

Brandon Gibb MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:10 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 10:00 A.M


 Chairman – Duane Nelson


 District Manager – Fred Rice