

**Monday, February 23, 2016 at 11:30 A.M.**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**AGENDA**

These are the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the United Irrigation District, held in the Glenwood Office on February 23, 2016, commencing at 11:30 A.M.

Present: Duane Nelson – Chairman  
Daniel Hunsperger – Vice-Chairman  
Jim Woolf – Board Member  
David Layton – Board Member  
Brandon Gibb – Board Member  
Fred Rice – Manager  
B. Craig Smith – Assistant Manager  
Hakon Skoien – Skoien Professional Corporation - Auditor  
Lloyd Smith - Public

**Discussion and Acceptance of the January 18, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Noted: letter sent to David/Katrina Jones acknowledging their suggestions about a pipeline from Payne Lake for UID water storage.

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept the January 18, 2016 minutes. SECONDED by Jim Woolf.

...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of the January 2015 Payroll**

David Layton MOVED to accept the January 2016 payroll, SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.

...CARRIED

**Reading, Discussion and Acceptance of February 23, 2016 Accounts Payable**

Noted: ED Marketing payment for IRP 2263 structure, Emco payment for air vent inventory and payment to Aetna Irrigation District for Andy Strang's service on the AIPA Executive Board.

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept February 23, 2016 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by David Layton.

...CARRIED

**Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to February 22, 2016**

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the financial statement. SECONDED by David Layton.

...CARRIED

**Audit**

Hakon Skoien reviewed the audit noting variances from the previous year. There is a \$32,000 operating surplus that meets the Irrigation Act requirement, section 117. Auditor note: "Opinion: In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the United Irrigation District as of December 31, 2015 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations." Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the audit. SECONDED by David Layton.

...CARRIED

**Expression of Appreciation**

The employees of the UID expressed appreciation for the salary increases and for the hockey game activity.

**Water Licence Transfer**

Alberta Environment and Parks has approved the water licence transfer to the South East Alberta Water Co-op Ltd. The information has been provided to the lawyer and the finalization of the agreement is being drafted.

### **Investments Review**

No decision. There was discussion of alternatives for the funds from the sale of the water licence. David suggested an investment in the area – possibly a gravel crusher.

### **Invoicing to Great Canadian Barn Dance**

The home owners association at the Barn Dance requested that the UID invoice them directly rather than through the Barn Dance. The UID turnout is to the lake at the Barn Dance and the Board decided to maintain the status quo for invoicing at this time.

### **Sale of the JD 555 Crawler Loader**

The flyer was reviewed and removed the “preference to rate payer’s statement”.

### **Ditchrider Mileage Payment Review**

The auditor reviewed the total km’s traveled by the ditchriders versus payment. It was determined that the average travel was up to 1,000 km in excess of payment provided. The Board discussed the issue and decided that current policy would continue unless there are large differences.

### **UID Budget for 2016**

The budget was reviewed and approved noting that there may be some adjustments if Districts are required to fund the proposed water quality study. David Layton MOVED to accept the 2016 Budget as presented. SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

### **Hengerer Farms Ltd. – NE 9-5-27-4 canal changes**

The cost of pipe, culverts and materials would be about \$110,000. HFL is willing to transport and pay for the materials if the UID will cover the cost of installation which would be about \$60,000. The area of improved access would be about 7 acres. The Board was not in favour of the UID paying anything on this proposal but suggested that if HFL wanted to proceed that they could cover the full cost, including hiring the UID to do the work, or do the work themselves but it would have to be under the supervision of the UID for quality control.

### **Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting is set for Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 1:00 P.M. at the Glenwood Community Hall. The question was asked if it might be better to select the chair for the meeting ahead of time but it was left as per previous practice to be done at the actual meeting. Jim and David are up for election in 2016.

### **Daniel’s Report from AIPA**

The next general AIPA board meeting will be April 11, 2016 in Strathmore. Ron McMullen has developed a statement outlining AIPA’s priorities for the next year. A new public affairs company has been hired to promote irrigation – Mison & Associates. Fred asked if the “Thanks to Irrigation” website is still the property of AIPA. Danny did not know. Efforts are being made by AIPA to have a meeting with the present Ag Minister. The mussel inspection team asked if any board members from the Districts would be interested in helping out at some of the inspection points. This would require taking 5 days of training in Calgary in March and then devoting time at the inspection points. The board members do not have the time to commit to this proposal. The AIPA board discussed the water quality testing alternatives. The preference appears to be a combination of acres and sites with a cap of \$.25 per acre. They also want to reduce the cost of the study by selecting fewer parameters to be tested.

### **Water Quality Testing**

The testing program has been funded from IRP funding for the past 5 years. It can no longer be funded from this program. To continue the water testing, the Irrigation Districts will have to cover the costs. Over the past month there has been on-going discussion about the fairest way to meet the cost, including on a per acre basis or a per site basis. The per site basis penalizes the smaller districts but the per acre basis penalizes the larger districts. The latest suggestion is to cap the total cost per acre based on a combination of acres and sites. The UID board is not in favour of a per site cost to the District unless the number of tested sites is reduced in the District – ie. 2 sites. Fred would like the cost to be based on the per acre model thinking that the study benefits the entire irrigation industry and should be funded accordingly. The board is in favour of reducing the cost of the total project by testing only for the major parameters. Jim felt that the funding for the testing should be found from another source.

### **Rate Payer Request for Cancellation of Penalty Charges on Late Payments**

A letter was received from a rate payer who has not yet paid the 2014 or 2015 invoices. The request was that penalties be withdrawn due to irrigation water entering their property from neighbor's irrigation practices. The board gave consideration to the request but felt that the penalties could not be withdrawn in fairness to others who are paying their late charges. Board Chairman Duane Nelson will discuss this with the rate payers who are making the request.

### **Fred's Agenda:**

1. Dan French has requested that a survey verify the correct land boundaries on the Lateral A1d project before he signs the easement. Fred has asked Wilde Brothers Engineering to find the survey pins and will talk to Dan to see if this will meet his concerns.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. prior to the annual meeting

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 2:00 P.M. SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.

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Chairman – Duane Nelson

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District Manager – Fred Rice