



### **AIPA Board Meeting March 25, 2013**

Fred and Duane reported on the meeting. Part of the discussion focused on getting IRP moneys back to the pre-budget levels. The Ag Minister suggested that more Ministers and MLAs need to be invited on the tours of irrigation districts to promote the benefits of irrigation. The AIPA conference will be held in the Lethbridge Lodge this fall. AIPA will be moving to a new office in the Lethbridge Northern building when their lease is up at the present location.

### **Irrigation Technical Conference June 6, 2013**

Fred should attend for the District. If board members attend it should be on their own time and not paid time.

### **Auditor Proposal**

A proposal for auditing services has been received from a different firm. The decision was deferred until later. The existing employment relationship needs to be reviewed with Price & Comin. The Board would prefer a long term (5 year) arrangement if a change of auditor is made.

### **Growing Forward 2 Irrigation Efficiency Program**

There is a grant of up to \$5,000 per farm to upgrade a pivot system to a more efficient low pressure system to qualifying farmers. A letter was sent to some of the irrigators in the District who may benefit from the program.

### **RBC Investments**

Dennis Chinner will be invited to the next Board meeting to review the District's investments. David Layton suggested the District could possibly invest in a gas station for the area. It could be the District's own tank supplying the fuel to be sold at a mark-up. There are interested parties in the area. David encouraged the Board and management to look at the Glenwood Village website. David would also like the District to seriously consider how to get involved in the gravel business. Options could include hiring the crushing, having a crushed pile for sale, leasing or buying land with gravel development potential, buying or leasing a crusher etc. It was decided that the next steps would be to investigate the costs and possible locations for information at the next meeting.

### **History Book**

The history book is basically ready to be printed. The manuscript has been sent to Alberta Heritage Preservation Foundation with an application for the approved funding. CreateSpace.com has print on demand services but only prints in soft cover format. Two board members would prefer a hard cover for the book but realize the significant extra cost for this format. It was suggested that the title be "Irrigation Between the Rivers" with a subtitle of "History of the United Irrigation District". It was decided to publish with the CreateSpace alternative as this allowed for print on demand and would save the District from having to purchase a set number of books.

### **Larry & Carol Lybbert Sale of Water Licence on Their Dugout**

Larry and Carol have a potential buyer for the licence they have on their dugout. They would like to still be able to fill the dugout as a part of their assessed acres without charge even if the licence is sold. It was agreed to continue to provide water to the dugout without charge. If the licence is sold within the District, management would have to approve the supply to the new owner on the basis of being able to provide the water and there would be a conveyance charge for supplying this water. The Board would like Fred to talk to Larry & Carol and see what it would cost to purchase the licence for the UID.

**Fred's Agenda**

1. Fred reported on the progress of IRP 2162 pipeline this spring.
2. The JD 750C dozer needs hydraulic hose repairs. Parts are ordered and Brandt Tractor is doing the repair work.

**South East Alberta Water Cooperative Request for Purchase of Water Licence**

Jim Woolf talked about the advantage of receiving payments over a 5 year period to offset the possible future deficits in the financial statements – with payments of \$100,000 per year for the 5 years. The price of \$2,000 per acre foot was suggested for 220 acre feet in a one-time payment.

Robert Wynder MOVED that the United Irrigation District sell 220 acre feet of the Belly River licence to the South East Alberta Water Cooperative for \$500,000 with payments of \$100,000 per year for five years plus the costs of the public meetings and the plebiscite, with the water to be taken from May 1 to May 15 each year. SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.

4 in favour, 1 opposed                      ...CARRIED

Next Meeting: May 22, 2013 at 10:00 A.M.

Jim Woolf MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:00 P.M. SECONDED by David Layton.

...CARRIED

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Chairman – Duane Nelson

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District Manager – Fred Rice