

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 10:00 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 May 21, 2019, commencing at 10:00 A.M.

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

Discussion and Acceptance of the April 15, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the April 15, 2019 Minutes; SECONDED by Craig Smith.

...CARRIED

Duane was asking if we need to order some pipes from IPEX. All we need now is to order 7 lengths of?PVC pipe.

Discussion and Acceptance of the April 2019 Payroll

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept the April 2019 Payroll; SECONDED by Craig Smith.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of May 21, 2019 Accounts Payable

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept May 21, 2019 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to May 21, 2019

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept May 21, 2019 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.

... CARRIED

Bylaw No. 5-2019 Water Conveyance Fee to Users without a Water Licence and Rural Water Use Fee Bylaw

Fred informed the Board about the information letter which was sent out to all campgrounds. The "warning" letter to tell about the changes in bylaw and a new way of billing the campgrounds for 2019. According to bylaw 5-2019 passed by the Board of Directors of the UID, the campgrounds will be charged \$10/permitted site up to 5 acre feet annual volume. Dave Layton, the owner of Whisper Valley Campground talked to Irrigation Council already, however complains against assessment may be filled with the Irrigation Council within 30 day of mailing date of the invoice as per Irrigation Districts Act. The invoices will be sent out on July 1.

Mountain Vista Water Co-op pays for 15 acre feet of water so Fred suggested to consider to change this bylaw and charge campgrounds 1/3 of their fee which would be flat rate for all campgrounds in amount of \$2,313.00 and the fee will be fair. Some of the Board Directors agreed with this idea, some of them did not.

The matter will be discussed at the next meeting again.

Dave Layton at the Board meeting to talk about fees to the campgrounds

Mr. Layton came to the meeting to complain about higher fees for campgrounds. As per Dave, he is thinking that the UID is going into their business too much and is spending a lot of time discussing rates for campgrounds.

To build roads, power and water lines for campground was expensive and he is not gaining as much

profit as people would think. He doesn't like the idea to charge irrigation water per lot as he doesn't see a correlation between used water and number of lots. He doesn't want to appeal to Irrigation Council but wants equitable fee. Dave's suggestion was to discuss fees with them before we pass the law each year.

Brandon assured him that we are not trying to charge campgrounds by assuming how much they earn. Jim's question to Dave was how much he thinks we should charge him. Commercial and recreational fee will be satisfied according to Mr. Layton, which is \$450 for this year.

Vaughn Smith at the Board meeting to talk about fees to the campgrounds and asking for water for construction of his campground

Mr. Smith came with these concerns:

- campgrounds will be singled out
- irrigation fee for 2019 is five times more than last year
- why campgrounds are paying more per acre foot of water than farmers

He is asking for fair and equitable fee for campgrounds. Vaughn noted that this business will support the area.

Fred explained the difference between agricultural and recreational license and once the land is rezoned, assessed acres need to be removed. Campgrounds can install flow meters and it will be the responsibility of the owner, but they are quite expensive. Our DDIT program for water usage estimate is fairly accurate so the UID is not asking for water meters.

Brandon also clarified how we set the charges up for campgrounds and that we are not trying to single them out. All fees are higher and because the fee for campgrounds were low for long period of time, we are trying to make them equitable now. Agriculture is beneficial for the area because it creates employment opportunity but campgrounds are beneficial for the owner mostly.

Jim noted that campgrounds around Calgary are paying for irrigation water much higher price. The UID will provide water for construction of the campground and cost for it will be discussed.

2011 Ford Boom Truck

Fred and Jared Nelson, our Ditch Rider went to the Ritchie Bros Auction on April 29-30 in Leduc. They bought a 2011 Ford Boom Truck with the crane attachment. The truck needed some beautification and our crew did a great job. Radio will be installed soon. The truck will be used mostly for fencing and other maintenance jobs.

Ben Layton asked for renting 8 acres

Fred talked to Mr. Layton about the Board decision that we don't have acres for renting and the UID is willing to buy his acres. He can then have an Annual Acres Agreement for more acres but we can't charge two different rates on one piece. Mr. Layton was not happy with the decision of the Board because he doesn't want to sell his 5 acres.

SMRID, RID, TID and MID set their annual water allocation

Four of the Irrigation Districts decided to set their annual water allocation at 12" of water at the farm gates, reassessment will be on June 14th. This is not a Water sharing agreement and it's just for this year.

Estimated cost to finish IRP 2298 Lateral B8

To finish IRP 2298 project - Lateral B8 we still need approximately \$450K. The IRP funding is still questionable so Fred asked the Board if we should proceed with the project this fall and use our savings or we will hold off until we are sure the funding will be received for this year.

This way the price for pipe from IPEX can't be guaranteed. We have already spent \$290,256.04 ahead.

The Board decided to wait for funding until fall and if we will get money, we can order pipe. Otherwise we will wait.

Dam Safety meeting

The meeting is planned for June 24th even though people from Alberta Environment and Parks are still unable to speak during meetings such as this one.

Dan Henrie's offer to sell assessed acres

Dan Henrie still wants to sell 53.34 irrigation assessed acres to the UID. These acres are not fusible to irrigate and they are also unutilized because you can't irrigate them without flooding neighbour's land. The Board agree to buy 53.34 irrigation acres from Dan Henrie.

Brandon Gibb MOVED that the UID will be considering buying any assessed acres available;

SECONDED by Jim Woolf.

...CARRIED

Four members in favor, one oppose.

Cardston Girls Choir

One member of the Choir approached the UID asking to be one of the recognized sponsors for their Summer 2019 International trip and support them with a donation of \$300.00 or any amount.

The Board decided do not donate money this time.

2019 AIDA Inter-District Tour of Wester Irrigation District

The Inter-District Tour in WID will be on June 4th, Fred, Duane, Jim and Brandon are interested and are planning to attend this event.

RMA meeting

Next meeting is planned for June 19th. Fred will attend.

Bruce Wynder's fence along Glen Lateral where the UID owns the land

The UID owns just one section of the land along the Glen Lateral where the open ditch is. The existing fence is in really bad shape. The owner of the land north of the ditch is Bruce Wynder and on the south side it is Darcy Barfuss. Bruce Wynder is asking to repair the fence so his livestock will stay away from the canal, Darcy Barfuss doesn't want the fence there at all. Because the UID is the owner therefore is responsible for the fence and our interest is to protect the water so we should do the fence on Bruce Wynder's site. Duane's suggestion is to arrange a meeting between the Fred, Bruce and Darcy and get the solution.

Repairing the fence would be under Operation and Maintenance, this is not a Rehabilitation program.

Security System

We had some problem with security system in the UID recently. The system is working properly again. The Canadian Security Systems are suggesting to update the existing system because of its age and we have received a quote from them. Brandon and Craig suggested to get a quote for cameras which can be installed on multiple places. The matter will be discussed again.

Scholarship 2019

The UID has received four applications for Scholarship from Grade 9 and four from Grade 12. After discussion the Board decided who the winners are from each grade. Both Awards will be presented at their graduation event on June 13 at Cardston High School and on June 19 at Spring Glen Junior High School.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 17, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.


Chairman - Duane Nelson


District Manager - Fred Rice