

Monday, November 21, 2022, 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 November 21st, 2022, commencing at 10:00 A.M

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

Discussion and Acceptance of October 24, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the October 24, 2022 Minutes; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the October 2022 Payroll

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept the October 2022 Payroll; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of November 21, 2022 Accounts Payable

Craig B. Smith MOVED to accept the November 21, 2022 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to November 21, 2022

Nicholas Barfuss MOVED to accept November 21, 2022, Financial Statement; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

Irrigation Rehabilitation Program: Inter-District Allocation Formula

When reviewing Irrigation Rehabilitation Program, Irrigation Council was seeking input from all irrigation districts.

The United Irrigation District wants to express concern about the expansion of irrigation acres in the number of the districts as it relates to the funding formula for IRP projects. The UID would like the formula to be based on the present allocations before the expansion. Including expansion acres in future funding will penalize our district and result in lower funding for our rehabilitation projects.

The letter will be sent to the Irrigation Council.

Seepage at Folsom Dairy's land on NW 8-4-27-W4

Fred re-surveyed test holes on October 26th. The water level in most holes increased which was caused by the recent snowfall. The level of the water in all holes except one was below the bottom of the ditch which means there is little seepage from our canal. The crew will fill the holes now.

Texas gate on the main canal at Folsom's land

This topic was first time discussed at September's meeting. The letter explaining Board's decision was sent out on November 2nd, 2022. The UID is asking Folsom Dairy to respect our canal and our land.

Chad Folsom came to the meeting to express his dissatisfaction with the decision. The fence attached to the Texas gate is gone now and according to him, the fence is pointless, and building the new one would be only a waste of money.

Folsom's Dairy is stacking hay bales on the property of the UID, where the constructed fence from 1988-1992 used to be. The fence was ripped out and trucks drive everywhere to get bales. The UID was not particularly complaining about it before but it came to our attention with the Texas gate.

The Board of the UID decided to request Folsom Dairy to build three wire fence back on the property line, where their bales are stacked, with forty feet gate on the south side of the fence. The Texas gate will stay in place and the fence needs to be attached to the gates. The letter will inform Folsom Dairy about the decision.

IRP Project #2378 – F Lateral

The letter sent from Irrigation Secretariat informed us that on October 26, 2022, Irrigation Council reviewed the letter from Wilde Bros Engineering addressing specifications for this project. The project is approved for the cost share funding at its estimated cost of \$1,873,000.

Annual Rolling Three-Year Plan 2023-2026

The UID completely finished IRP#2340 _ Lateral F7 in spring 2022 when the final landscaping was done. The second project finished in 2022 was IRP#2368 – Emergency Drain on Lateral F.

In the plan itself is only one continuing project IRP#2378 – F Lateral mentioned above. As this project is extensive, the UID will need several years of IRP funding to complete the project, therefore the UID is not submitting any New Year One Projects neither Proposed Year Two Projects and beyond this year.

Duane Nelson MOVED to accept the IRP 2023-26 Annual Rolling Three-Year Plan as presented; SECONDED by Nicholas Barfuss. ... CARRIED

IRP Funding and how much will be the district's contribution if the total grant from the government will be \$25 million

Some concerns were expressed by the Board members about the higher district's contribution if the total grant would raise to \$25 million. Our contribution would be then around \$214,000. The members asked whether our district would be able to cover the higher contribution. Our district can use investments to cover contribution.

B Lateral - modernization project

Last modernization project B Lateral is substantially completed except for some landscaping works next spring. We are over budget with a cost of around \$28,000 which is caused by the higher price for PVC pipe from the original estimate (11.5%). The estimate was \$260,043, the actual cost is \$289,854 and the difference is \$29,811.

C Lateral – capital project

The project is pretty much finished. This capital project is an extension to the project completed by the UID in 2020. It is an open pipeline system and the crew was able to put all PVC pipes in the ground. There are only left about 200 meters of backfilling and about 300 meters of landscaping which will be done by Hengerer's Farm. All material is at Hengerer Farm's expense and the UID did all work as per agreement. The UID will maintain ownership of all new works installed.

Using irrigation water efficiently

The Board discussed efficient irrigation water use again. The Irrigation Act is not specifically addressing the situation when the ratepayer is not wisely using the irrigation water. We can not shut their water off unless the water is causing damage to a neighbor. Section 13&187 of the Irrigation Act is about the stoppage of water delivery.

The district can also make the bylaw so we can shut them off if needed. However, Irrigation Secretariat does not recommend making the bylaw.

The topic will be discussed at our Annual General Meeting and notice will be sent out to all ratepayers together with the invitation to the AGM.

Headworks gate

We have not heard anything from Larry Bester-electrician yet. When the weather will be warmer, Fred will contact him.

Irrigating Alberta Inc. (IAI) – repayments

As the UID substantially finished all modernization projects, IAI will look more into an agreement for repayments for us.

AIDA representative for a group of small irrigation districts

The group of small irrigation districts will have a new AIDA representative which will start after the Annual General Meeting in December 2022. The representative is from Magrath Irrigation District.

A request for financial support and participation in the South Saskatchewan River Operational Model project

Fred talked to Margo Redelback, AIDA Executive Director and she will send us an Invoice for \$0.04/acre in near future.

BBQ for crew and Board Members

The event was very appreciated by the crew, the steaks were delicious and everybody enjoyed the evening.

AIDA 2023 Conference

The Conference will take place on February 6-8, 2022 at Deerfoot Inn& Casino Calgary. The conference was not organized in the last couple of years due to Covid-19 restrictions. Fred and Jim are planning to attend the event.

Motion to appoint an auditor for the fiscal year 2022

Duane Nelson MOVED that Skoien Professional Corporation be appointed as auditor for the fiscal year 2022; SECONDED by Craig B. Smith. ...CARRIED

Annual Acre Agreement for Larry Gibb

It looks like Larry seeded alfalfa on the land where he has an Annual Acre Agreement. The original agreement was for planting cereals on that land as it does not need much water later in the irrigation season when there is a shortage of water. However, this is not included in the written agreement. We will include it in next year's agreements and Fred will kindly remind him that if there is a shortage of water, the Annual Acre Agreement user will be shut off first.

Letter about reservoir projects concerns with CIB from Cheril Bradley, SAGE

IAI received the letter from SAGE on November 10th. The letter is dealing with the environmental impact assessment of the "historic expansion of Alberta irrigation" including proposed reservoirs. For information only.

Jerry Reed is no longer employed at the UID

Jerry was working with the UID for the last couple of years and is no longer employed at the UID.

UID's investments at ATB Financial

The Board decided to move \$200,000 from the checking account into ATB investments into 1-year GIC at 4.5% interest.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, December 19, 2022, at 10:00 A.M



Chairman – Duane Nelson



District Manager – Fred Rice