

Monday, September 19, 2016 at 9:00 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 September 19, 2016, commencing at 9:00 A.M.

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

Brandon Gibb and Michael Bishop not able to attend due to harvest.

Discussion and Acceptance of the July 18, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the July 18, 2016 minutes. SECONDED by Jim Woolf.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the July/August 2016 Payroll

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the July/August payroll, SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.

...CARRIED

Reading, Discussion and Acceptance of September 19, 2016 Accounts Payable

Noted: Major payments included July GST and September insurance. One bill payment for Zinc Anodes initiated discussion on the longevity of the anodes, their effectiveness and the likelihood of future replacement costs to the UID in the event that structures, turnouts and anodes deteriorate after 20 – 25 years. Jim asked if the steel turnouts and structures would last longer if the anodes were replaced more often. Not known for certain. Jim Woolf MOVED to accept September 19, 2016 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.

...CARRIED

Reading, Discussion and Acceptance of September 19, 2016 Petty Cash

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the September 19, 2016 Petty Cash. SECONDED by Duane Nelson.

...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to September 16, 2016

Noted: 4 rate payers have outstanding accounts from 2015. There was discussion about encouraging payment prior to year-end. Equipment pool charges are mostly O&M and Custom Work with minimal IRP work done to date. Expense items in different categories were discussed. The cash and investment positions of the UID were reviewed. The District is in a strong financial position. Duane Nelson MOVED to accept the financial statement. SECONDED by Jim Woolf.

...CARRIED

Purchasing Large Rocks from Rice Pit

There were more large rocks than estimated and 10 truckloads of large rocks were stock piled in the UID yard for future use.

MLA Tour July 19, 2016

Daniel Hunsperger was on the tour with the MLAs. His mention of future storage on the Belly River with the Director's of Irrigation and Irrigation Secretariat was not encouraging in that setting. Fred noted that there does not appear to be anyone in Alberta Environment that is in a position to push for on-stream storage at this time. Duane, Daniel and Fred represented the UID at the BBQ.

AIPA Report and Promoting the Belly River Dam Project

Daniel noted that Western Irrigation District received an increase in water licence of 32,000 acre feet and that SMRID received a 4,000 acre foot increase. They have been working on the increases since 2000/2001. Fred was surprised at SMRID's increase as it is in the South Saskatchewan basin where no increases were to be authorized.

Ron McMullen contacted Fred about having a part of the AIPA conference on storage and including a power point presentation by Wilde Brother's Engineering on the Belly River proposal as part of the session. The question to the Board is whether we want to pay Darin for the development/improvement of the presentation and how far we want to continue to invest in promoting the project. The discussion included pointing out the benefit of storage to SMRID, TID, RID, MID, AID, LID, and MVID as well as the UID, and who might be a good spokesperson outside the UID to make the presentation (Richard Philips or Gordon Zobell suggested). Daniel feels the other Districts have their own agenda's and are not willing to support this project. Fred noted that SMRID does not think there is a need for more storage. Those attending the AIPA Board Meeting on September 26 will try to get a feeling from the other Districts as to the direction the UID should take.

Fred's Report on the Water Monitoring Conference

There are still a lot of problems with meters that can give accurate readings of water flows. A lot of money can be spent on metering without good results being guaranteed. Greyline meters were not represented at the conference. Fred suggested the UID could donate one of our Greyline meters for research at the AB. Ag station.

Update on the Fusible Pipe Break with IPEX and Syn-Core

IPEX has not yet provided a letter to the UID in support of the issues with Syn-Core. IPEX will be sending a remote camera unit capable of going through pipelines to look at each fusion to determine the quality of Syn-Core's work in October after water is out of the system. All those performing fusions for IPEX have been required to be re-certified and Syn-Core participated. When Fred talked to LNID they indicated they required a signed contract with anyone doing the fusions that guaranteed their work. Jim felt that IPEX has questions about the quality of Syn-Core's work in their wanting to send a camera unit to examine the pipelines. He wants to be present when they come to do the inspection.

Lateral B2 Seepage in the NW corner of NW 19-4-27-W4

When this conveyance system was used more intensely this year there was water standing in the NW corner. Fred suggested that a continuation of the pipeline may need to be installed to the end of the property to reduce the problem. It was decided to defer a decision until Brandon Gibb could give input on the situation. It was also noted that there is some seepage problems extending to the north on Lloyd Smith's property as well.

Resume

A resume has been submitted by an interested party for the Assistant Manager position. Those present reviewed the resume.

AIPA Request for Nominees for AIPA Award

The UID has no candidates at this time.

Growing Forward 2 – Irrigation Conveyance Works Management Program

Fred had called Irrigation Secretariat for more information but no response to date. This is going to be discussed at the September 26 AIPA Board meeting so more information will be forthcoming.

Possible Crop Damage on SE 21-5-26-W4

This is an area where Hengerer Farms Ltd. is rehabilitating a dugout and it appears water flow could have been checked to keep water out of the dugouts and contributed to the problem of water getting into the crop. Fred indicated that the crop will be able to be harvested once it dries out and the UID will wait to see if there is actual crop loss. There are about 1.38 acres affected.

Folsom Water on SW 4-4-27-W4

Folsom's have been ordering water for filling the dugout when the dugout is already full. Fred has given the Ditchrider direction to not provide water if the dugout is already full.

Date for Turning Water Out of the System

The Environment Canal is turning off water on October 7. It was decided that water diversion will be stopped in the UID on October 12 so all systems can be drained by October 14. Weather may create a need for earlier turnoff. Notice will be posted in Glenwood and Hill Spring.

AIPA Board Meeting, September 26, 2016

Fred, Duane and Daniel will attend.

AIPA Conference, November 14 – 16, 2016, Deerfoot Inn, Calgary

Duane, Jim, Daniel and Fred will attend. Brandon and Michael will be contacted to see if they will attend. Each Director will advise the office as to whether or not spouses will be accompanying them.

UID Christmas Party

Where, when and caterer were discussed. Helen Walburger will not be doing catering this year because of health. Other suggestions were made and they will be contacted. The date is tentatively set for Friday, November 25, 2016 at the Hill Spring Community Center.

Fred's Agenda:

1. Hengerer Farms Ltd. has asked that the NE corner of NE 8-5-27-W4 be rehabilitated. Presently the ditch meanders through the corner and HFL would like to have it straightened out with the UID installing 75 meters of 30" pipe. HFL would do the finishing dirt work. The Board decided the UID will do the installation if HFL will purchase the pipe. Fred will discuss the decision with Joachim Hengerer.
2. Fred would like to get an estimate on upgrading the lighting in the shop and the office. LED lights would improve the working areas. Options will be explored for the next board meeting.
3. Fred met with Riverside Colony on a couple of issues. They would like to have a rock lined ditch replaced on the south half of 6-6-25-W4. It is leaking and causing problems. Fred indicated the ditch has been a problem since rehabilitation 20 years ago. The system was examined and it appears this could be an IRP project within 5 years to install pipe. RSC is okay to wait and make adjustments until then. Fred discussed some changes in the location of the emergency spill drain for the leveling pond by moving the spillway to the NE 34-5-26-4 and drain pipe into the SW 3-6-26-4. RSC is willing to give easements for whatever will be engineered for the project.
4. Fred noted interest in attending an Equipment Expo in Las Vegas in March 2017.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 9:00 A.M.

Chairman – Duane Nelson

District Manager – Fred Rice