

Monday, February 25 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 February 25, 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
Public in attendance - Lloyd Smith

Discussion and Acceptance of the January 28, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Jim Woolf MOVED to accept the January 28, 2019 minutes; SECONDED by Brandon Gibb.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the January 2019 Payroll

Brandon Gibb MOVED to accept the January 2019 Payroll; SECONDED by Duane Nelson.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of February 25, 2019 Accounts Payable

Craig Smith MOVED to accept February 25, 2019 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger.
...CARRIED

Discussion and Acceptance of the Financial Statement to February 25, 2019

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept February 25, 2019 Financial Statement; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
... CARRIED

Audit 2018 – Auditor’s report

Our Auditor Hakon Skoien from Skoien Professional Corporation reviewed the audit with the Board of Directors. Mr. Skoien noted that it was a clean audit, books were done well and from the audit view balances are reported correctly. The statements were discussed and the differences between 2017 and 2018 were explained, even though these two years were quite similar. As per the Opinion of the Auditor, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of United Irrigation District as at December 31, 2018 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 (ASNFPO).

The UID had a surplus in 2018 and Jim Woolf suggested to move \$72,000 to the restricted fund which can be used in the future in case of deficit.

Brandon Gibb MOVED to transfer \$72,000 over to the Internally Restricted Funds; SECONDED by Jim Woolf.
....CARRIED

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the audit as presented with the reflection of the correction of \$72,000 in Financial Statement; SECONDED by Craig Smith.

...CARRIED

ATB Investments

Darren Tanner, Professional Senior Financial Advisor from ATB Securities Inc. was invited to the meeting to update the Board about our investment portfolio. Mr. Tanner gave us general information about the situation on investment market first followed by the status reviewed of

the UID Investment. Generally market went down last quarter of 2018 especially in October and December, but the situation has already improved the first two months of 2019. The UID's portfolio is very conservative in very high quality investment with lower risk portfolio and the annualized return from 2014 is about 2.16%, but only 0.13% in 2018.

AIDA Conference 2019

Alberta Irrigation District Association 2019 Conference took place on February 4-6, 2019 at Deerfoot Inn&Casino in Calgary. Fred and Viera attended the event. Flood in TID, SMRID and other districts was a major topic of discussion. Conference was very successful and informative and apparently best attended conference so far-175 people. Craig asked if there was higher representation from the government. Actually not, only higher representation of people from municipalities which is a good sign. AIDA award of the year went to Rod Bennett from the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

Manager's Meeting

Fred attended the Manager's Meeting on February 19, 2019. One of the main discussion was about district expansion, this time particularly the expansion in Bow River Irrigation District. It took only 4 days to get all the applications for 39,000 expanded acres. Even though these expansion acres are new, they will be eligible for IRP funding next year. Our Board is seriously concerned about IRP funding and is thinking this is not fair to other districts. The impact to our district is severe as we literally depend on IRP funding.

Brandon's suggestion is to make our district bigger by expanding or by amalgamation with other smaller districts. It can be quite "painful" at the beginning but better for long term. The Board agreed we need to make our district more efficient.

Dam safety meeting

Alberta Dam safety meeting is scheduled for April 25th, 2019 at the LNID office.

We have received email with the amendments to the Water Act (Ministerial) Regulation and Water (Offences and Penalties) Regulation were approved, including the development of the new Alberta Dam and Canal Safety Directive.

Our Cochrane Lake is categorized as a dam of consequences, therefore these new regulations will affect us. An inspection needs to be completed annually by an engineer who has 15+years of experience. It will significantly increase consulting fees of the district. The definition of a canal which is 2.5 m tall and a flow of 15 m³/s now has to be treated as a dam. Also there is ambiguity about capacity; definition includes capacity of 30000 m³ which could incorporate other sections of the canal. Brandon mentioned that AIDA needs to fight for the districts.

Infrastructure study about the life expected for the infrastructure

Fred and Jennifer Nitschelm discussed the Canadian Agriculture Partnership, specifically the Risk Mitigation Program and the Emergency Preparedness Program. Both programs are currently closed but we will look into it as this can be interesting for our district. Those programs need engineer involvement so Daniel's suggestion was to contact our Engineer Darin Wilde and ask him for collaboration.

Accounts receivable

The Accounts receivable for rates from 2017 was fully paid so the Rate Enforcement doesn't need to be filled out.

The Accounts receivable for rates from 2018 is \$ 6,926.20 as of today and ratepayers who owe us are: Fox, Francis, Paxman, Porter, Stephan and Welch.

Salary 2019

Brandon Gibb Moved to increase salary for 2019 as discussed during Regular Board Meeting on January 28th, 2019; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

United Irrigation District 2019 By-Laws

a. By-Law No. 4-2019 – Household Purposes Fee Bylaw

The By-Law was read the First Time by Duane Nelson. Brandon Gibb MOVED to read the second time. Daniel Hunsperger SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read Second Time by Jim Woolf. Craig Smith MOVED to read the third time. Brandon Gibb SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the Third Time by Daniel Hunsperger. ...PASSED.

b. By-Law No. 5-2019 – Water Conveyance Fee to Users Without a Water Licence and Rural Water Use Fee Bylaw

The By-Law was read the First Time by Brandon Gibb. Duane Nelson MOVED to read the second time. Brandon Gibb SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the Second Time by Daniel Hunsperger. Craig MOVED to read the third time. Jim Woolf SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the Third Time by Jim Woolf. ... PASSED.

c. By-Law No. 6-2019 – Capital Assets Charge Bylaw

The By-Law was read the First Time by Duane Nelson. Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to read the second time. Craig Smith SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the Second Time by Daniel Hunsperger. Craig Smith MOVED to read the third time. Daniel Hunsperger SECONDED. ...CARRIED

Read the Third Time by Brandon Gibb. ... PASSED.

IRP funding for 2019

This year's funding is questionable as the Budget may not be introduced before the election.

IRP funding is shrinking – What NEXT?

- Irrigation Rehabilitation Program funding has been reduced for the last 8 years
- Future Funding not secure
- Operating Costs are increasing

The SMRID has prepared a chart showing how high operating costs per acres were in 2015-2017 and how much the IRP funding covered in these districts: SMRID, TID, RID, BRID, LNID, WID, EID. Unfortunately UID was not included in the chart. For example Taber ID is up to \$18/acre now and they figured out they will need to increase it to \$22/acre.

Meeting with the Lethbridge County

Meeting for Irrigation Districts & Municipal representatives with the Lethbridge County is scheduled for March 27, 2019 at 10:00 AM at the CASA Centre. Over land drainage concerns and rehabilitation cost will be discussed. They also want districts to pay for road crossings and bridges.

Mountain Vista Water Co-op

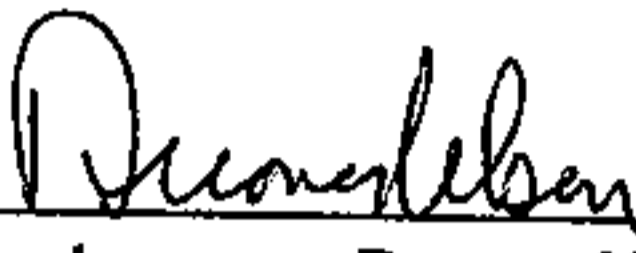
Fred was speaking with Trevor Kunkel how much water he needs for the lake. Mr. Kunkel's intention is use very little water to keep the lake fresh. The UID is fine with that.

Fence posts ordered

Semi-load of fence posts are ordered from Pincher Creek Co-op and should be delivered at the end of March for our Maintenance. Pincher Creek Co-op offered us the best price.

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.


Chairman - Duane Nelson


District Manager - Fred Rice