

# UNITED IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## Thursday, February 21, 2013 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 Thursday, February 21, 2013 commencing at 10:00 A.M.

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

Also attending the meeting at 10:30 A. M. - Doug Wilde of Mercer Wilde Moltz (Auditor)

#### **Discussion and Acceptance of January 21, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Daniel Hunsperger MOVED to accept the January 21, 2013 regular meeting minutes; SECONDED by Robert Wynder. ...CARRIED

#### **Discussion and Acceptance of January 2013 Payroll**

Robert Wynder MOVED to accept the January 2013 payroll, SECONDED by David Layton. ...CARRIED

#### **Reading, Discussion and Acceptance of February 21, 2013 Accounts Payable**

David Layton MOVED to accept February 21, 2013 Accounts Payable; SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger. ...CARRIED

#### **Reading, Discussion and Acceptance of February 21, 2013 Petty Cash**

No petty cash activity for February.

#### **Reading and Discussion on Financial Report to February 21, 2013**

The internet has been down and there is no financial report for the month of February

#### **Mark Smith/Andy Olson/Owen Doherty - Re: SW 36-4-28-4 Runoff Water**

Fred met with Owen and Audrey Doherty on the issue of runoff water getting on the adjacent owners property. Owen and Audrey were cooperative and asked the assistance of the UID to make some changes in the way the water is diverted through the ditches to avoid runoff. It is noted that this is a natural channel for runoff water from rains and snow melt so all runoff cannot be avoided. A letter was sent to Owen and Audrey reminding them of the Irrigation District Act Section 187 that states the responsibility of the irrigator to control the water. A copy of the letter was forwarded to Andy Olson and Joachim Hengerer.

#### **County/United Irrigation District Water Agreement**

The agreement was signed February 21, 2013 for the Water Agreement and the transfer of the County land to the UID.

#### **Oldman Watershed Council Contribution of Funds**

Due to financial constraints at this time the Board decided to not make a contribution to the Council this year.

### **Working with the Leavitt Irrigation District**

Fred visited with the LID Board of Directors on January 23, 2013. They are receptive to the idea of working with the UID equipment on their projects. They do not have any current projects at this time. Fred asked them to approach Roger Hohm of the Irrigation Secretariat with the proposal to use the UID equipment for their next projects. There is a possibility of the Town of Cardston possibly funding a LID project in the near future that would possibly allow some joint work.

### **Irrigation Management Workshop**

Overall the Board members felt the workshop was good. Some of the efficiencies discussed could be applied to the management of irrigation by the participants. Suggestions included limiting the time given to the sales organizations and the hands on computer training time.

### **Audit – Doug Wilde of Mercer Wilde Moltz**

Mr. Wilde indicated that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the UID as of December 31, 2012 in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The District shows an excess of revenue over expenditures of \$120,581 for 2012. However, according to the formula used by Irrigation Council there will be a deficit. Mr. Wilde suggested some options including transferring some of the cash or investment income into the Irrigation Works account to offset this shortfall. This would limit the use of the cash/investment transferred to irrigation works projects, therefore, reducing the available cash for operations. The decision of the Board was to let the Irrigation Council formula stand with the deficit for 2012 without any alternative action. It was proposed that a representation be made to Council for a review of the formula. Mr. Wilde will talk to some of the other irrigation districts he is auditing as well as other accountants about this issue. He is willing to make a presentation to Irrigation Council with the Board. It was also suggested that Andy Strang be contacted with a request to have this discussed at AIPA levels.

Jim Woolf MOVED to approve the audit as presented. SECONDED by David Layton. ...CARRIED

### **Annual Meeting – March 20, 2013 Hill Spring Community Hall, 1:00 P.M.**

A reminder of the meeting date. Two board members are up for election – Jim Woolf and David Layton.

### **Private Custom Work**

Fred asked the Board if the UID should be involved in private custom work. It was decided that we have the equipment and need the revenue, therefore, if someone approaches us to do work we will take it. However, we will not bid on work but will do it on a cost plus basis using good judgment on a case by case basis.

### **Letter from Kathleen Murphy – Re: Water Licence Wording**

The letter from Kathleen Murphy outlining the “Irrigation for Crops” wording was a mistake that will be noted in their files.

### **Precipitation Weather Station**

At times irrigators ask if the UID has any precipitation data. Should we set up a weather station at the UID? It was noted that a new weather station is going to be established in the Glenwood area by AFSC crop insurance. We will wait and see where it will be located. A number of locations were discussed including offering to have it set up on some of the UID properties.

### **Water Conversation Meetings – Pincher Creek, February 26, 2013**

A public meeting will be held on the above date from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Fred encouraged Board members to attend and to invite our irrigators to attend. Fred attended a Stake Holders meeting in Milk River on February 20 and provided the Board members with copies of information discussed at that meeting. We need to make our views heard in these meetings.

### **Revisit our Budget and By-Laws**

Given the Irrigation Council formula deficit estimate, management raised the question as to the need to redo our budget. Craig will investigate the numbers for next Board meeting.

### **Fred's Agenda**

1. Fred showed the Board members a brochure on a Herder Mowing Bucket that attaches to a Hi-Hoe for mowing grass on ditches. The cost is about \$14,000 but with our track hoes it may not be practical. It is likely best to keep spraying ditches for now.
2. A number of ideas were discussed as to how the District could generate more revenue including:
  - a. Doing some crushing – owning a small crusher or renting a crusher to use with our equipment and marketing crushed gravel
  - b. A crushing bucket for the Hoes
  - c. Making the most use of our equipment such as more custom work
  - d. Continuing to make our own turnouts
  - e. Could it be possible to make our own pipe fittings such as elbows and other specialty pipe needs?

Next Meeting: March 20, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. – prior to Annual Meeting – likely need to provide a lunch.

Robert Wynder MOVED that the meeting be adjourned at 1:00 P.M. SECONDED by Daniel Hunsperger

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Chairman – Duane Nelson

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District Manager – Fred Rice