



**August 5, 2021 Special Directors Meeting**

The Directors of the Eastern Irrigation District held a special meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Jason Hale	Chair	[Division 1]	Mr. Ivan Friesen	General Manager
Mr. David Peltzer	Director	[Division 2]	Mr. Marvin Koochin	Assist. GM – Legal & Corporate Services
Mr. Ross Owen	Director	[Division 3]	Mrs. Wendy Enns	Executive Assistant
Mr. Brian Schmidt	Director	[Division 4]		
Mr. Don Jacobson	Director	[Division 5]		
Mr. Brent Schroeder	Director	[Division 6]		
Mr. Tracy Hemsing	Vice-Chair	[Division 7]	<i>[connected via phone call]</i>	

The meeting was called to order at 9:27 a.m.

- 2021-08-212 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board resolve into the Committee of the Whole. Seconded by R. Owen. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 1.0 Amended and Restated Borrowing Bylaw #947 – CIB Financing**
- 2021-08-213 Moved by D. Jacobson that the meeting be reconvened. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

***DIRECTION ARISING FROM THE IN CAMERA PORTION OF THE MEETING***

**1.0 Amended and Restated Borrowing Bylaw #947 – CIB Financing cont'd**

In connection with the District’s plans to design and construct additional irrigation infrastructure projects in addition to those projects initially described in the District’s Borrowing Bylaw #947 which was initially passed on December 7, 2020, an Amended and Restated Borrowing Bylaw #947 was presented to the Board to obtain additional joint funding from the Canada Infrastructure Bank and the Government of Alberta.

The additional qualifying projects will result in the CIB loan increasing from a maximum amount of \$120,456,000 to \$140,847,500; available provincial grant money increasing from \$72,273,600 to \$84,508,500; and the corresponding EID contribution share increasing from \$48,178,400 to \$56,339,000.

All other material terms of the initial bylaw passed on December 7, 2020 are retained within the amended and restated bylaw.

Since the increased amount of the loan will exceed the debt limit of the District as set out in section 2(b) of the Irrigation General Regulation (i.e. debt limit being 1.5 times the revenue of the District in the most recent audited financial statements), approval of the amended and restated bylaw is also required by the Alberta Minister of Agriculture and Forestry.



- 2021-08-214 Moved by D. Jacobson that amended and restated Borrowing Bylaw #947 (2021) be introduced and read the first time this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021. Seconded by B. Schmidt. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 2021-08-215 Moved by D. Jacobson that amended and restated Borrowing Bylaw #947 (2021) be read the second time this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021. Seconded by B. Schmidt. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 2021-08-216 Moved by D. Jacobson that with all Directors being present, consent be granted to give third reading to amended and restated Borrowing Bylaw #947 (2021) this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021. Seconded by R. Owen. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 2021-08-217 Moved by R. Owen that amended and restated Borrowing Bylaw #947 (2021), being a bylaw relating generally to the transaction of the business affairs of the Eastern Irrigation District, be read the third time and finally passed. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**R. Owen moved adjournment of the meeting at 10:00 a.m.**

[10:00 a.m. R. Owen exited the meeting.]

[After impromptu discussion on the following matter with the remainder of the Board, and a request put forward to set direction, J. Hale reconvened the meeting at 10:25 a.m.]

## **2.0 Temporarily Relaxing the 24 Inch Water Limit**

Brought forward by T. Hemsing, a dialogue was held on whether the District should fulfill requests to supply additional water above the 24" limit for crops that require the extra water to finish production. A number of aspects were reviewed, including the current number of parcels irrigating, river and reservoir levels, types of crops and the number of water users requiring additional inches, the number of excess inches that could be considered, and a range of suggested surcharge rates. It was reiterated that all irrigators should use proper irrigation management, communicate well with their Water Operator, and have flows measured if recorded volumes used are in question. It was consensus of the Directors present that amending the maximum water limit from 24" to 27", as done in 2017 and 2019, should not be the solution to requests for additional water, but that an alternative could likely be allowed on a user pay model. Directors were also in agreement to fully re-examine the provision within the Drought Plan Guidelines that allows water users to average their irrigation use over their farm link once at the second stage of the Drought Plan. Subject to further discussion with R. Owen who had to leave at initial meeting adjournment, the following preliminary motion was put forward.

- 2021-08-218 Moved by D. Jacobson that for the remainder of the 2021 irrigation season, for purposes of completing crop production an allowance be made to permit water users to purchase additional volumes of water over the current 24" maximum allotment as follows:**
- in 1 inch/acre increments;**
  - at \$2.00/inch/acre;**
- and provided that this allowance does not include fall irrigation. Seconded by T. Hemsing.**



**2021-08-219 Moved by D. Peltzer that motion 2021-08-218 be tabled. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

In order to provide for the opportunity for discussion and also obtain R. Owen’s input, this matter is to be discussed at a second meeting, to be held Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Directors were given the option to call in for this meeting, rather than attend in person.

**3.0 Upcoming Events**

- 3.01 Special Directors Meeting - Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.
- 3.02 Alberta Open Farm Days – Bassano Dam Tours - Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
- 3.03 Regular Board Meeting - Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.
- 3.04 Regular Board Meeting - Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.
- 3.05 Special Budget Meeting - Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

**D. Jacobson moved adjournment of the meeting at 10:49 a.m.**

Chairman

General Manager