



May 24, 2023, Regular Directors Meeting

The Directors of the Eastern Irrigation District held a regular meeting on the 24th day of May 2023. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Richard Hiebert	Director	[Division 1]	Mr. Ivan Friesen	General Manager
Mr. David Peltzer	Vice-Chair	[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. John Ketchmark	Director	[Division 5]		
Mr. Brent Schroeder	Director	[Division 6]		
Mr. Tracy Helsing	Chair	[Division 7]		

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 12.0 EIDNet Accounts for Community Halls

2023-05-115 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board adopt the Agenda as revised. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.01 April 25, 2023, Organizational & Regular Directors Meetings

The minutes of the April 25, 2023, Organizational and Regular Directors Meetings were accepted as presented.

2023-05-116 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Minutes of the April 25, 2023, Organizational and Regular Directors Meetings be approved as presented. Seconded by B. Schmidt. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.0 Business Arising

There were no matters raised.

4.0 Reports on Meetings / Events

4.01 Crawling Valley Recreation Society Meeting

D. Peltzer attended the CVRS Annual Meeting on April 25th and advised that the campground is staying vigilant with the AIS prevention program.

5.0 Irrigation Acres Bylaw

Over the last several months, the Irrigation Acres Bylaw has been reviewed and the proposal to increase the number of acres which can be approved in any calendar year has been given thorough

discussion. 1st reading of the proposed bylaw was approved in February, a revised proposed bylaw received 2nd reading in March, and further discussion was held in April. Through further review at the this meeting, it was requested that 3rd reading of the proposed bylaw be read as presented in March. 3rd and final reading increases the total number of irrigation acres available per year to 3,000 (2,000 old bylaw), including 1,200 for off river (800 old bylaw). As was presented in 1st and 2nd readings, the bylaw expressly authorizes the EID to develop EID lands with carry forward acres and gives priority to the EID to carry forward acres. This bylaw and the Capital Assets Charges Bylaw will be reviewed annually in November, after the approval of irrigation development applications.

- 2023-05-117 Moved by B. Schmidt that Bylaw #965 (2023), being a Bylaw of the Eastern Irrigation District to establish the rules and procedures governing an application for an increase in Irrigation Acres and to an application to transfer Irrigation Acres, be amended by changing the number of acres which can be approved in any calendar year to:**
- 1,200 acres for off-river,
 - 3,000 acres in total, and
- be read the third time and finally passed. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED IN FAVOUR – R. Hiebert, D. Peltzer, B. Schmidt, J. Ketchmark, T. Hemsing
OPPOSED – R. Owen, B. Schroeder**

[9:21 a.m. S. Barlow entered the meeting.]

6.0 Financial Report

S. Barlow presented the following Financial Report.

6.01 Financial Statements to April 30, 2023

The financial statements to April 30, 2023, were reviewed, noting the following overall:

- YTD revenues total about \$27.18 million and are tracking over YTD budget.
- YTD net operating expenses total about \$17.85 million and are tracking under YTD budget.
- YTD potential transfer to the Irrigation Works Fund is approximately \$9.32 million.

A number of questions were responded to by Mrs. Barlow and Admin. In follow up to the Annual Report Book and AGM, it was requested by a Director that the Continuity of Fund Balances Note #10 (page 26) have, if possible, a corresponding notation explaining that the end of year total does not represent cash on hand.

- 2023-05-118 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board approve the Financial Statements to April 30, 2023, as presented. Seconded by R. Owen. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6.02 Appointment of Auditor

An engagement letter from Bevan and Partners, Chartered Accountants was presented which engages Bevan and Partners for purposes of conducting the upcoming annual audit of the District's 2023 financial statements.

- 2023-05-119 Moved by D. Peltzer that the engagement letter, dated May 11, 2023, from Bevan and Partners, Chartered Professional Accountants, for the audit of the Eastern Irrigation District's 2023 financial statements be approved and execution authorized. Seconded by B. Schmidt. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[9:37 a.m. S. Barlow exited the meeting; R. Gagley, R. Summach, J. Kabut, and B. Kroschel entered.]

7.0 Engineering

R. Gagley presented the following Engineering Report.

7.01 Snake Lake Fencing

In follow up to a landowner enquiry concerning fencing near the Snake Lake Reservoir expansion lands, photos of right-of-way parcels and a review of standard practices were provided to Directors. It was confirmed that the District will, as is standard practice, endeavour to remain within its property but will be responsible for the repair of any fences that may incur damage from the construction of the reservoir expansion. It was further noted that as the existing fences are beyond the ROW and on the adjacent landowner's property, the landowner is responsible for any ongoing maintenance. R. Gagley will respond to the adjacent landowner.

7.02 Rolling Hills Canal

R. Summach presented the Rolling Hills Canal synopsis, advising that most of the canal in this 1.9 km reach is not lined or armoured and is in fill, up to 5 m at the highest elevation. Due to this, the canal is prone to seepage into the adjacent borrow pits. The project is located approximately 10.5 km SE of Rolling Hills and there are 3 pivots pumping directly from this section of the canal. It is being proposed to line, armour, and restore the freeboard of the canal. This will stop seepage, increase the canal's durability, and restore its capacity. The project is estimated to cost \$1,581,000 and it is recommended to be funded under the AIM program. A number of questions were responded to by staff.

2023-05-120 Moved by B. Schmidt that the Board approve the Rolling Hills Canal rehabilitation project to line, armour, and fence 1.9 km of canal for an estimated \$1,581,000; to be funded under the AIM program. Seconded by J, Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.03 West Bantry – Phase 3

J. Kabut presented the West Bantry – Reach 3 synopsis, located approximately 10 km SE of Brooks, slated for the 2023/2024 construction year. The full length of the canal is approximately 9 km, serves 21,798 acres, and has been badly damaged by cattle access. Phase 1 and 2 have been completed, with the 3.1 km Phase 3 remaining. It is being proposed to rehabilitate the 410 cfs canal by trimming the side slopes, rebuilding sections of banks, and fencing off both sides to prevent any cattle access. The project is estimated to cost \$898,000 and it is recommended to be funded under the Capital Works program. A number of questions were responded to by staff.

2023-05-121 Moved by R. Owen that the Board approve the West Bantry – Reach 3 rehabilitation project to trim, rebuild, and fence 3.1 km of canal for an estimated \$898,000; to be funded under the Capital Works program. Seconded by D. Peltzer. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.0 Operations

B. Kroschel presented the following Operations Report.



8.01 Snowpack Report

Snowpack for the Bow Basin continues to be below average compared to previous years. The warmer weather has brought on a sharp decrease in the snowpack with all the ranges trending downwards. I. Friesen noted that Bow River districts continue to manage their requirements in collaboration and advised of operational levels for Ghost and TransAlta mountain reservoirs.

8.02 Reservoir Status and Water Use to Date

The system was largely up and running the week of May 5th, with the usual leaks being fixed on the systems as they arose. Most reservoirs are near their upper end of operating levels (FSL). To this point, irrigation demand has been relatively low, allowing the reservoirs to be refilled to near FSL. Compared to last year at this time, approximately 23,000 ac-ft less has been diverted and approximately 22,000 ac-ft more is in storage. Questions were answered concerning Rolling Hills Reservoir levels.

WATER USE TO DATE		
	May 2023	May 2022
Water Diverted to Date	78,287 ac-ft (3.02")	101,458 ac-ft (3.92")
Water Applied to Land to Date	2.88"	-
Range of Parcels Irrigating	1 – 300	1 – 600
Parcels Using Over 12"	0	2
Parcels Using Over 16"	-	-
Parcels Using Over 20"	-	-
Total Firm Live Storage*	272,847 ac-ft	250,265 ac-ft

* Only includes main reservoirs

[10:03 a.m. R. Gagley, R. Summach, J. Kabut, and B. Kroschel exited the meeting; R. McLean entered.]

9.0 Equipment

R. McLean presented the following Equipment Report.

9.01 Quotes for the Purchase of 250 and 350 Excavators

For the annual partial fleet renewal, it is being proposed to purchase one 250 excavator and one 350 excavator for the upcoming construction season, for anticipated delivery in fall; quotes presented included a Weldco bucket. Mr. McLean responded to a number of questions.

PURCHASE OF 250 EXCAVATOR		
Company	Year & Make	Quote
Brandt Tractor Ltd	2023 John Deere 250P	\$394,502.09
Wajax Equipment	2023 Hitachi ZX250LC-6	\$412,677.09
Finning Canada	2023 Cat 326	\$452,203.09

PURCHASE OF 350 EXCAVATOR		
Company	Year & Make	Quote
Brandt Tractor Ltd	2023 John Deere 350P	\$481,786.04
Wajax Equipment	2023 Hitachi ZX350LC-6	\$487,846.04
Finning Canada	2023 Cat 336	\$547,493.04



- 2023-05-122 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the purchase of a:**
- **2023 John Deere 250P Excavator for \$394,502.09, and**
 - **2023 John Deere 350P Excavator for \$481,786.04,**
- from Brandt Tractor Ltd. Seconded by R. Owen. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[10:06 a.m. R. McLean exited the meeting; R. Moen entered.]

10.0 EIDNet Report

R. Moen presented the following EIDNet Report.

10.01 Monthly Report

There have been no major issues since the last report. The District’s 48 seasonal automation sites have now been reactivated. Conduit installation to Tilley for the fibre project has been completed and it is anticipated that conduit for the Bantry leg will be complete by the end of May, with the Cassils portion to commence thereafter.

[10:09 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Short break. R. Moen exited the meeting; S. Connauton entered.]

11.0 Lands

11.01 Assessment, Water & Lands

S. Connauton presented the following Assessment, Water & Lands Report.

11.01.1 Farm Improvement Grant Applications and Increases in Irrigation Acres Applications

11.01.2 Budget Report

FARM IMPROVEMENT GRANT BUDGET – MONTHLY REPORT	
2023 Farm Improvement Grant Budget as of October 1, 2022	\$1,000,000
50/50 Cost-Shares	
Paid	< \$20,612 >
To be Completed	< \$64,207 >
Require Approval	< \$21,072 >
Farm Improvement Grants	
October through April (<i>approved and paid</i>)	< \$155,316 >
May (<i>approval required</i>)	< \$23,500 >
Total Budget Remaining	\$715,293

*Total of grants paid to date within the 2023 fiscal year is \$204,017.

Cost-Shares (*turnouts, crossings, drain relocations, tree removal, machine leveling, gated pipe, etc.*)

11.01.3 Land Leveling – Marie Gazdarica – NE 29 & SE 32-16-12 W4M

The landowner has applied for a 50/50 cost-share for land leveling on 2 parcels in NE & SE 32-16-12 W4M to accommodate 2 pivots. By policy, the EID will pay 50% up to \$15,000 per parcel; this project is estimated to cost \$2,760.

2023-05-123 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for Marie Gazdarica for land leveling to accommodate pivots in NE 29 & SE 32-16-12 W4M, to be funded on a 50/50 cost-share basis, up to a maximum District contribution of \$15,000. The project is estimated to cost \$2,760; of which the Landowner's share is \$1,380 + GST. Seconded by B. Schmidt. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.01.4 Land Leveling – M Lazy S Land Co Ltd (Mark Tatem, Scott Tatem, Colin Tatem) – SE 30-16-30

The landowner has applied for a 50/50 cost-share for land leveling of an old ditch through the center of SE 30-16-12 W4M to accommodate a pivot. By policy, the EID will pay 50% up to \$15,000 per parcel; this project is estimated to cost \$700.

2023-05-124 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for M Lazy S Land Co Ltd for land leveling to accommodate a pivot in SE 30-16-30 W4M, to be funded on a 50/50 cost-share basis, up to a maximum District contribution of \$15,000. The project is estimated to cost \$700; of which the Landowner's share is \$350 + GST. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[10:18 a.m. B. Schmidt declared a pecuniary interest and exited the meeting.]

11.01.5 Land Leveling – Brian & Gayle Schmidt – SE 23-19-14 W4M

The landowner has applied for a 50/50 cost-share for land leveling of an old ditch in SE 23-19-14 W4M to accommodate a corner arm pivot. By policy, the EID will pay 50% up to \$15,000 per parcel; this project is estimated to cost \$31,880.

2023-05-125 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for Brian & Gayle Schmidt for land leveling to accommodate a corner arm pivot in SE 23-19-14 W4M, to be funded on a 50/50 project is estimated to cost \$31,880; of which the Landowner's share is \$16,880 + GST. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[10:19 a.m. B. Schmidt rejoined the meeting.]

11.01.6 Tree Removal – Takeda Feeding Co Ltd (Nancy Takeda) – SE 25-18-15 W4M

The landowner has applied for a 50/50 cost-share for the removal of trees in SE 25-18-15 W4M to accommodate a corner arm. By policy, the EID will pay 50% up to \$15,000 per parcel; this project is estimated to cost \$8,684. In addition, the landowner will pay the full amount for any hauling of removed trees to a different location.

2023-05-126 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for Takeda Feeding Co Ltd for tree removal to accommodate a corner arm in SE 25-18-15 W4M, to be funded on a 50/50 cost-share basis, up to a maximum District contribution of \$15,000. The project is estimated to cost \$8,684; of which the Landowner's share is \$4,342 + GST. Seconded by B. Schmidt. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Converting to a More Efficient Method of Irrigation (*wheels, pivot, sub-surface*)

11.01.7 Flood to Pivot – Tyler Charlton – Pt W ½ 20-19-13 W4M

- Previous Assessment: 146 acres
- Current Assessment: 140 acres (6 acres transferred out for General Assessment); (102 large wiper pivot, 38 flood)
- Converting: 33 acres flood to 2 wiper pivots; keeping 5 acres outside pivot areas
- Assessment remains the same at 140 acres (135 wiper pivots, 5 acres outside)
- Pivot areas have reached their maximum grant funding
- Note: as the landowner has moved the center point of the large pivot, a previous encroachment agreement can now be canceled

2023-05-127 Moved by R. Owen that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for Tyler Charlton for the conversion of 33 acres flood to wiper pivot in Pt W ½ 20-19-13 W4M. The Farm Improvement Grant payable to the Landowner is \$3,300 (33 acres x \$100/acre) - \$2,500 (5 acres x \$500/acre) deduction for keeping acres outside the pivot area = \$800. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.01.8 Wheels to Pivot – DLM Feeders Inc (Dallas & Shannon Martin) – SW 03-21-15 W4M

- Previous Assessment: 77 acres
- Current Assessment: 115 acres (20 acres transferred in and 18 acres purchased); (24 acres north pivot, 91 acres wheels)
- Converting: 91 acres wheels to wiper pivot (73 acres eligible for grant)
- Assessment remains the same at 115 acres (24 acres north pivot, 91 south wiper pivot)
- Parcel has reached its maximum grant funding

2023-05-128 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for DLM Feeders Inc for the conversion of 73 acres wheels to wiper pivot in SW 03-21-15 W4M. The Farm Improvement Grant payable to the Landowner is \$7,300 (73 acres x \$100/acre). Seconded by R. Owen. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In February 2020 a Farm Improvement grant for an upgrade in Pt Sec 03-21-15 W4M applied a deduction to the 5 acres remaining outside pivot and wheel areas (motion 2020-02-055). With the above pivot conversion, these acres are now eligible for a return of deduction.

2023-05-129 Moved by R. Hiebert that the deduction of \$500/acre applied in February 2020 to 5 acres in SW 03-21-15 W4M be returned to DLM Feeders for pivot efficiencies; 5 acres x \$500/acre = \$2,500. Seconded by R. Owen. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Upgrades (*receipt submitted prior to October 1, 2022*)

11.01.9 Flood to Pivot with C/A – Jeffrey & Sheryl Van Wert – S ½ 01-18-13 W4M

- Current Assessment: 173 acres (129 irrigation, 44 terminable)
- Converting: 129 acres flood and wheels to pivot and 44 terminable acres to irrigation acres; 35 additional acres needed
- New Assessment: 208 acres, all under pivot
- Parcel has reached its maximum grant funding



- Note: proof of purchase was submitted prior to October 1, 2022

2023-05-130 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for Jeffrey & Sheryl Van Wert for the conversion of 129 acres flood and wheels to corner arm pivot and wiper pivot in S ½ 01-18-13 W4M. The Farm Improvement Grant available and payable to the Landowner is \$12,900 (129 acres x \$100/acre). The capital assets charge to convert 44 terminable acres to irrigation acres is \$15,400 (44 acres x \$350/acre). The capital assets charge for 35 additional acres is \$33,250 (35 acres x \$950/acre). Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[10:25 a.m. S. Connauton exited the meeting; N. Fontaine and R. Volek entered.]

11.02 Grazing

R. Volek presented the following Grazing Report.

11.02.1 Results of Tender – PGL #7123

In follow up to the January meeting, Private Grazing Lease #7123 in N ½ 23-14-13 W4M was first offered to the past leaseholder and when declined, was then tendered out. Due to the potential for irrigation development, the tender was for the right to hold the lease for 1 year and included the standard eligibility requirements but no minimum bid, 640 acre limitation, or Community Grazing deduction.

PGL #7123 1 Year 313 acres 60 AUM				
Bidder	Amount	\$/AUM	GST	Total
Stewart & Lenita Musgrove	\$5,123.00	\$85.38	\$256.15	\$5,379.15
Nelson Weaver	\$4,567.00	\$76.12	\$228.35	\$4,795.35
Lynne Marquess	\$4,500.00	\$75.00	\$225.00	\$4,725.00
Luke Kropf	\$3,855.50	\$64.26	\$189.00	\$4,044.50

2023-05-131 Moved by B. Schmidt that as high bidder, and by meeting land and residency requirements, a 1 Year agreement for PGL #7123 be awarded to Stewart & Lenita Musgrove. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2023-05-132 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board resolve into the Committee of the Whole. Seconded by B. Schmidt. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.02.2 JBS Update

11.03 Lands, Oil & Gas

11.03.1 Request to Purchase Land – 66 Ranch Ltd (Kelsey Campbell) – Pt SE 18-20-15 W4M

[10:38 a.m. N. Fontaine and R. Volek exited the meeting.]

12.0 EIDNet Accounts for Community Halls

[10:46 a.m. R. Moen re-entered the meeting.]



[10:58 a.m. R. Moen exited the meeting.]

13.0 Occupational Health & Safety Update

2023-05-133 Moved by D. Peltzer that the meeting be reconvened. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DIRECTION ARISING FROM THE IN CAMERA PORTION OF THE MEETING

11.03 Lands, Oil & Gas cont'd

11.03.1 Request to Purchase Land – 66 Ranch Ltd (Kelsey Campbell) – Pt SE 18-20-15 W4M cont'd

66 Ranch Ltd is requesting to purchase approximately 5.4 acres of EID land located in Pt SE 18-20-15 W4M that is the old Springhill Canal right-of-way. The acquisition of this land will allow 66 Ranch Ltd to install a wiper pivot and convert existing acres from flood to pivot. This request falls within the Sale of District Owned Lands Policy.

2023-05-134 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the District sell approximately 5.4 acres of old ROW in Pt SE 18-20-15 W4M to 66 Ranch Ltd for \$1.00 as per clause 2.05 of the Sale of District Owned Lands Policy; subject to the lands being consolidated into the adjoining parcel, and all survey costs, subdivision costs, legal fees, consolidation fees, and any other fees associated with the land purchase being the responsibility of the purchaser. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12.0 EIDNet Accounts for Community Halls cont'd

A Director conveyed that he was approached by a couple of community hall reps enquiring if the EID would support the halls with internet service, citing use with monitoring the buildings' utility systems and with wifi availability for users. After discussion, the following motion was carried.

2023-05-135 Moved by D. Peltzer that for local community halls requesting EIDNet internet service, the District pays the basic installation fee and the monthly equivalent of a water user Regular Residential Plan. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Halls that wish to secure plans at higher speeds above the Regular Plan will be required to cover the costs above the base plan, as well as for any additional/optional equipment.

CONTINUATION OF THE AGENDA

14.0 Upcoming Events

- 14.01 LNID 100th Anniversary - Friday, June 16th, 11:30 a.m., Coyote Flats Pioneer Village [attending: T. Hemsing, B. Schmidt, J. Ketchmark, I. Friesen]
- 14.02 International Federation of Ag Journalists Congress - June 27th – July 3rd, Olds [D. Peltzer rep]
- Brooks Newell Region Tour - Tuesday, June 27th [D. Peltzer rep]
- 14.03 Regular Board Meeting - Wednesday, June 28th, 9:00 a.m.



14.04 2023 AIDA Inter-District Tour

- Thursday, July 6th, hosted by Bow River Irrigation District
[attending: T. Hemsing, B. Schroeder, R. Hiebert]

14.05 Regular Board Meeting

- Tuesday, July 25th, 9:00 a.m.

D. Peltzer moved adjournment of the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

Chairman

General Manager