

**April 22, 2025, Organizational & Regular Directors Meeting**

The Directors of the Eastern Irrigation District held an organizational meeting and regular meeting on the 22nd day of April 2025. Those in attendance were:

Mr. Richard Hiebert	Director	[Division 1]	Mr. Ivan Friesen	General Manager
Mr. David Peltzer	Director	[Division 2]	Mr. Marvin Koochin	Assist. GM – Legal & Corporate Services
Mr. Brad Deschamps	Director	[Division 3]	Mr. Ryan Gagley	Assist. GM – Engineering & Operations
Mr. Jeff Alberts	Director	[Division 4]	Mrs. Wendy Enns	Executive Assistant
Mr. John Ketchmark	Director	[Division 5]		
Mr. Brent Schroeder	Director	[Division 6]		
Mr. Tracy Hemsing	Director	[Division 7]		

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

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**1.0 Elections****1.01 Election of Chairman**

I. Friesen congratulated the newly acclaimed and elected Directors, stepped in as chair and called for nominations for Board Chair.

2025-04-060 Moved by B. Deschamps that Tracy Hemsing be nominated for Chair. Seconded by R. Hiebert.

Mr. Hemsing accepted the nomination. Mr. Friesen called for nominations a second time.

2025-04-061 Moved by D. Peltzer that nominations cease.

As no further nominations were placed, Mr. Hemsing was elected Chair.

1.02 Election of Vice-Chairman

T. Hemsing assumed the chair; likewise, congratulated Directors, and called for nominations for Vice-Chair.

2025-04-062 Moved by R. Hiebert that David Peltzer be nominated for Vice-Chair. Seconded by B. Schroeder.

Mr. Peltzer accepted the nomination. Mr. Hemsing called for nominations a second time.

2025-04-063 Moved by J. Ketchmark that nominations cease.

As no further nominations were placed, Mr. Peltzer was elected Vice-Chair.

**2.0 Appointments****2.01 Committee of the Whole**

All Directors are included on the Committee of the Whole.

2.02 Alberta Irrigation Districts Association Executive

T. Helsing will continue as AIDA Representative; B. Schroeder will act as Alternate.

2.03 Prairie Conservation Forum

B. Deschamps will act as PCF Representative.

2.04 Crawling Valley Recreation Society

D. Peltzer will continue as CVRS Representative.

2.05 Joint Shared Services Committee

J. Ketchmark will continue as JSSC Representative.

2.06 Scholarship Selection Committee

R. Hiebert, D. Peltzer, B. Deschamps, J. Alberts, J. Ketchmark, T. Helsing, and I. Friesen are included on the Scholarship Selection Committee.

2.07 Newell Regional Tourism Association

The NRTA has been removed from the Board of Directors Appointments and will be represented by staff, with B. Doerksen stepping in.

2025-04-064 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the Board approve the appointments as stated. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.0 Calendar of Tentative Meeting Dates

A calendar of tentative Board Meeting dates for the upcoming year was provided for Directors. By default, Board Meetings are usually scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of the month, but rescheduled or additional meetings are added as needed from time to time.

3.01 Calling a Late March Board Meeting if No Election for Director

Going forward, in years when an election for Director is not required, a late March Board Meeting will be called.

REGULAR MEETING**1.0 Approval of Agenda**

A couple of agenda items were re-ordered for the convenience of staff.

2025-04-065 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 February 25, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting

The minutes of the February 25, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting were accepted as presented.

2025-04-066 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Minutes of the February 25, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting be approved as presented. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2.02 March 3, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting

The minutes of the March 3, 2025, Special Directors Meeting were accepted as presented.

2025-04-067 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Minutes of the March 3, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting be approved as presented. Seconded by B. Deschamps. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.0 Business Arising

There were no matters needing to be addressed from the February 25th or March 3rd Regular Directors Meetings.

4.0 Reports on Meetings / Events

4.01 AIDA Annual General Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting – April 3rd

J. Alberts and I. Friesen attended the AIDA AGM and Board of Directors Meeting on April 3rd in Lethbridge. Discussion topics included the provincial government's Water Availability Engagement, district water sharing agreements, government relations, past AIDA conference, upcoming inter-district tour, Northwest Irrigation Operators tour in southern Alberta, water quality program, veliger sampling, financial statements, and an update from Irrigation Council.

4.02 Aggie Days – April 11th

D. Peltzer, J. Alberts, J. Ketchmark, and D. Buell worked at the AIDA booth for Aggie Days at the Calgary Stampede Grounds on Friday, April 11th. On a busy day of elementary class attendance, the AIDA booth offered agricultural related activities for children and opportunities to discuss various aspects of irrigated agriculture with adult supervisors. New interactive activities are in the plans for future events.

4.03 Aquatic Invasive Species – April 15th

In follow up to an introductory meeting at the County of Newell, T. Hemsing and I. Friesen hosted an in-person and online meeting on April 15th at the EID with Richard Philips – BRID General Manager, Margo Jarvis Redelback – AIDA Executive Director, Arno Doerksen – County of Newell Reeve, Martin Shields – MP for Bow River, and Nicole Kimmel – Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Environment & Protected Areas. Boat decontamination dip tank technology, sourcing, and funding were discussed, along with other prevention methods. Directors were advised that the provincial government has increased funding for the Conservation Risk Mitigation Section of EPA and the number of inspection stations. AIDA and the provincial government will continue their efforts and it was reiterated that all levels of government need to be engaged in prevention measures.

[9:35 a.m. S. Barlow entered the meeting.]

5.0 Financial Report

S. Barlow presented the following Financial Report.

5.01 2nd Quarter Investment Report – March 31, 2025

The book value of the District's investments plus bank account balances at March 31, 2025, was \$5.34M or 5.81% less than the book value at September 30, 2024.

2 nd QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT to March 31, 2025		
Investment	Matured	Purchased
EID – Short Term	\$1,600,000	-
EID – Long Term	-	\$4,000,000
Irrigation Rehabilitation Program – Short Term	-	-
Partners in Habitat Development – Short Term	-	-
Alberta Irrigation Modernization – Short Term	\$4,200,000	-
Alberta Irrigation Modernization – Long Term	-	\$4,000,000

2025-04-068 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board approve the 2nd Quarter Investment Report to March 31, 2025, as presented. Seconded by D. Peltzer. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.02 2nd Quarter Accounts Receivable Report – March 31, 2025

A variety of accounts were detailed, and questions answered by Mrs. Barlow.

2025-04-069 Moved by B. Deschamps that the Board approve the 2nd Quarter Accounts Receivable Report to March 31, 2025, as presented. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.03 Financial Statements to March 31, 2025

The financial statements to March 31, 2025, were reviewed, noting the following overall:

- YTD revenues total about \$22.6 million and are tracking under YTD budget.
- YTD net operating expenses total about \$16.7 million and are tracking under YTD budget.
- YTD potential transfer to the Irrigation Works Fund is approximately \$5.8 million.

A number of questions were responded to by Mrs. Barlow.

2025-04-070 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the Financial Statements to March 31, 2025, as presented. Seconded by B. Deschamps. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[9:57 a.m. – 10:04 a.m. Short break. S. Barlow exited the meeting; J. Kabut and R. Summach entered.]

6.0 Engineering

R. Gagle presented the following Engineering Report.

6.01 Project Status Costs-to-Date

All projects are functionally complete and ready for the irrigation season. Crews are working diligently to get the projects cleaned up to enable landowner access to begin spring fieldwork. In response to a question about actual project cost totals, Mr. Gagley explained that projects were brought back to the Board for approval of re-estimated costs in response to notification from the pipe supplier of projected rising costs in materials for last year.

EID CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS			
Project	Status	Estimate	Actual
EARTHWORKS			
Rock Lake Drain	- complete	\$2,767,000	\$2,507,000
West Bantry Phase 3	- final cleanup remains	\$1,076,000	\$740,000
Rolling Hills Canal (AIM)	- final cleanup remains	\$1,776,000	\$1,570,000
PIPELINE			
14-H West Bantry (AIM)	- final cleanup remains	\$6,910,000	\$6,638,000
J Tilley (AIM)	- final cleanup remains	\$414,000	\$350,000
V Tilley (AIM)	- final cleanup remains	\$2,840,000	\$2,845,000
U-02 Tilley (AIM)	- final cleanup remains	\$225,000	\$218,000
03 East Branch	- final cleanup remains	\$3,179,000	\$2,532,000

IRP PROJECTS			
Project	Status		
PIPELINE			
West Bantry Armouring (IRP)	- final cleanup remains	\$1,300,000	\$910,000

6.02 Drain Relo – John Niznik – SE 29-18-16 W4M

J. Kabut advised that John Niznik is requesting a drain relocation in SE 29-18-16 W4M to allow the pivot to complete a full circle without crossing the drain. The drain currently runs east through the south portion of the quarter and the landowner is requesting that it be relocated to the SW corner, outside the pivot area, emptying into the County road ditch. By policy, the EID pays 50% up to \$50,000 on approved drain and canal relocations; the estimated eligible project costs are \$47,865.

2025-04-071 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the Board approved the Farm Improvement Drain Relocation for John Niznik in SE 29-18-16 W4M, to be funded on a 50/50 cost-share basis up to a maximum District contribution of \$50,000. The estimated eligible project costs are \$47,865; of which the landowners will pay \$23,932.50 + GST. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.03 Drain Relo – Faye Pedersen Jones – NW 30-16-13 W4M

R. Summach advised that Faye Pedersen Jones is requesting a drain relocation in NW 30-16-13 W4M. The drain currently runs straight south, east of the middle of the quarter and the landowner is requesting that it be relocated to the quarter's north boundary to flow west. By policy, the EID pays 50% up to \$50,000 on approved drain and canal relocations; the estimated eligible project costs are \$69,960.

2025-04-072 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approved the Farm Improvement Drain Relocation for Faye Pedersen Jones in SE 29-18-16 W4M, to be funded on a 50/50 cost-share basis up to a maximum District contribution of \$50,000. The estimated eligible project costs are \$69,960; of which the landowner will pay \$34,980 + GST. Seconded by J. Alberts. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[10:22 a.m. J. Kabut and R. Summach exited the meeting; B. Kroschel entered.]

6.04 Canal and Pipeline Rehabilitation Policy

The Canal and Pipeline Rehabilitation Policy was presented to Directors with clarification and updating regarding:

- realignments of rehabbed canals affecting rural water use or household turnout locations;
- temporary and permanent fencing standards; and
- schedule of approved fees for payment when working on easements and rights-of-way.

A Director requested that braces and brace posts for permanent fencing be a minimum of 8' long instead of a minimum of 7' long. The revised document was given approval and it was suggested that this policy be brought to the next Corporate Planning sessions for review of cost-share amounts.

2025-04-073 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the Board approve the Canal and Pipeline Rehabilitation Policy as revised and corrected. Seconded by B. Deschamps. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.05 Request for In-Kind Work – Rolling Hills Community Facilities

A letter was received from Rolling Hills community representatives requesting in-kind work in support of 3 of their facilities: the hall, arena, and golf course. All 3 locations need gravel supplied and grading and leveling of their parking lots, at an estimated cost of \$8,800 + GST. As the Board reasoned this request to be more of a maintenance project than a structural project, it was deemed suitable to offer free access to gravel, with the facility boards arranging and paying for gravel hauling and leveling of parking lots.

2025-04-074 Moved by D. Peltzer that the District make available gravel at the Eyremore pit for the Rolling Hills community hall, arena, and golf course parking lots. Seconded by B. Deschamps. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.0 Operations

B. Kroschel presented the following Operations Report.

7.01 Snowpack Report and Reservoir Status

Although it has increased, the snowpack supplying the Bow River basin remains below average. Diversion began on April 7th with priority going to filling reservoirs and as of April 16th there is 262,736 acre-feet in storage for the upcoming irrigation season. It is anticipated that all reservoirs will be at or near full by the beginning of May.

7.02 Review Current Operating Stage

Pursuant to the Maximum Water Delivery Bylaw #970 (2024), each operating month, and particularly in June, the stage of the Drought Plan Guidelines is to be confirmed or may be adjusted

by resolution of the Board. It was the consensus of the Board to have the District's Operating Stage remain at Stage 2 (max 18" with up to 6" of transfers). The earliest date for water delivery to farmers remains at May 1st – May 8th.

7.03 District Housing – Unforeseen Costs

Some maintenance issues (cracked foundation, flooring) for District housing have now been identified which need addressing, primarily in 2 houses. As these projects were unanticipated when setting this year's budget, it is being requested that funds be made available to correct the problems in a timely manner.

2025-04-075 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the District approve \$30,000 to be added to the District Housing budget for this year to accommodate unforeseen maintenance work. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[11:07 a.m. B. Kroschel exited the meeting; R. Moen entered.]

8.0 EIDNet

R. Moen presented the following EIDNet Report.

8.01 Monthly Report

No major operational issues occurred in the reporting month. Work continues on the last phase of fibre project funded by the Universal Broadband Fund which includes the Gem, Patricia, and Rolling Hills towers. The upcoming District budget will include the separate Bassano fibre proposal.

2nd QUARTER EIDNET REPORT to March 31, 2025	
EIDNet Accounts	Current Customers
Legacy Residential Accounts	23
Residential Accounts	1,449
Business Accounts	360
EID Automation	5
Total	1,837

[11:12 a.m. R. Moen exited the meeting; N. Fontaine entered.]

9.0 Lands

9.01 Lands, Oil & Gas

N. Fontaine presented the following Lands, Oil & Gas Report.

9.01.1 Oil & Gas Mid-Year Report

The 2025 Oil & Gas Mid-Year Summary from October 1, 2024, to April 7, 2025, was presented with yearly totals dating back to 2016; the current and last 5 years are as follows:

OIL & GAS ACTIVITY REPORT – Mid-Year Summary						
Year	New Wells	Twin Wells	Pipeline	Seismic	Abandonment Notifications	Reclaimed Certificates
2025 Mid-Year	5	20	59.53 ac (10 miles)	2 permits (331.805 miles)	150	97
2024	8	8	113 ac (19 miles)	1 permit (77.9 miles)	12	44
2023	22	35	155.11 ac (26 miles)	0	16	58
2022	27	37	204.596 ac (34 miles)	1 permit (175.44 miles)	222	39
2021	16	26	46.42 ac (7.78 miles)	0 permits	374	39

9.02 Habitat, Wildlife & Access

9.02.1 2024 Partners in Habitat Development (PHD) – Annual Report

Partners in Habitat Development has planted 1,000,000 tree and shrub seedlings across southern Alberta since its inception in 1998. The program was started by the EID and Pheasants Forever with the intent of restoring upland gamebird habitat in southern Alberta. The current focus of the program is planting shelterbelts in the EID, but other habitat development or enhancement opportunities are considered on a case-by-case basis. Typically, planting sites are pivot corners, field edges, tame pasture, bale yards, etc. Site size may range from a couple of hundred to a couple of thousand seedlings. The full Annual Report was received as information; a summary can be seen in the March 3rd minutes.

[11:15 a.m. N. Fontaine exited the meeting; S. Connauton entered.]

9.03 Assessment, Water & Lands

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

9.03.1 Assessment Report to March 31, 2025

The Assessment Report for the period of January 1, 2025, to March 31, 2025, was presented, summarized as follows.

2 nd QUARTER EID WATER ROLL to March 31, 2025					
Acres on the Water Roll	Irrigation Acres	Terminable Acres	Annual Agreement	5R Soils Acres	Total
January 1, 2025	316,281	2,782	0	374	319,437
March 31, 2025	316,321	2,862	0	367	319,550
Net increase	40	80	0	< 7 >	113
Irrigation Acres Removed from the Water Roll (acres sold back for new subdivisions or part of Farm Improvement)					< 2 >
Irrigation Acres Added to the Water Roll (acres purchased through Irrigation Dev. App. or Farm Improvement efficiencies)					40
Terminable Acres Converted to Irrigation Acres					< 80 >
Terminable Acres Canceled					< 0 >

2 nd QUARTER CAPITAL ASSETS REVENUE REPORT	
Irrigation Acre Purchases	\$94,500
Terminable Acre Conversions	\$17,250
Annual Agreements	\$0
5R Soil Agreements	\$0
Totals	\$111,750

9.03.2 Farm Improvement Grant Applications and Increases in Irrigation Acres Applications

9.03.2.1 Increase – AFAR Farms Ltd (Robert & Nicola Peltzer) – NW 09-21-15 W4M

- Previous Assessment: 40 acres
- Current Assessment: 90 acres pivot (14 acres, 25 acres, and 11 acres added for general assessments in 2000, 2001, and 2016 respectively)
- Proposal: installation of pivot; 12 acres needed (efficiency)
- Efficiency Acres Gained: Wheels and Class A Flood to pivot; $90 \times 1.15 = 14$ efficiency acres
- New Assessment: 102 acres, all under pivot
- Notes: subject to meeting soils requirements; project must be completed by April 30, 2026

2025-04-076 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the Board approve the Increase in Irrigation Acres application for AFAR Farms Ltd for 12 efficiency acres in NW 09-21-15 W4M; subject to meeting soils requirements. The capital assets charge is \$18,360 (12 acres x \$1,530/acre). Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[11:18 a.m. T. Hensing declared a pecuniary interest and exited the meeting.]

9.03.2.2 Increase – Davidson Family Farms Ltd (Kyle & Desirae Davidson) – NW 01-15-14 W4M

- Previous Assessment: 150 acres
- Current Assessment: 136 acres pivot (9 acre decrease in 1982 and 5 acres removed for general assessment in 1995)
- Proposal: addition of corner arm; 11 acres needed (infill)
- Efficiency Acres Gained: 0
- New Assessment: 147 acres, all under corner arm pivot
- Notes: soils meet requirements; project must be completed by April 30, 2026

2025-04-077 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approve the Increase in Irrigation Acres application for Davidson Family Farms Ltd for 11 infill acres in NW 01-15-14 W4M. The capital assets charge is \$16,830 (11 acres x \$1,530/acre). Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[11:19 a.m. T. Hensing rejoined the meeting.]

9.03.2.3 Increase – Luke & Brenda Kropf – NE 36-17-14 W4M

- Previous Assessment: 125 acres
- Current Assessment: 131 acres pivot (5 acres and 1 acre added for general assessments in 2002 and 2016 respectively)
- Proposal: addition of corner arm; 13 acres needed (infill)

- Efficiency Acres Gained: 0
- New Assessment: 144 acres, all under corner arm pivot
- Notes: soils meet requirements; project must be completed by April 30, 2026

2025-04-078 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the Increase in Irrigation Acres application for Luke & Brenda Kropf for 13 infill acres in NE 36-17-14 W4M. The capital assets charge is \$19,890 (13 acres x \$1,530/acre). Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.03.2.4 Increase – Major Trading Inc (Stirling Fox) – NW 17 & Pts NE, SE, & SW 17-20-17 W4M

- Previous Assessment: 203 acres
- Current Assessment: 230 acres pivot (27 acres added for various general assessments)
- Proposal: change from 1 pivot and 1 wiper pivot to 1 large wiper pivot and 2 small corner pivots; 33 acres needed (infill)
- Efficiency Acres Gained: 0
- New Assessment: 263 acres, all under pivot
- Notes: soils meet requirements; irrigable unit required; project must be completed by April 30, 2026

2025-04-079 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the Increase in Irrigation Acres application for Major Trading Inc for 33 infill acres in NW 17 & Pts NE, SE, & SW 17-20-17 W4M. The capital assets charge is \$50,490 (33 acres x \$1,530/acre). Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2025-04-080 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the registration of an Irrigable Unit on NW 17 & Pts NE, SE, & SW 17-20-17 W4M; all lands being owned by Major Trading Inc. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.03.3 Alternate Parcel Transfer – Wiebe to Berg

For the 2025 irrigation season, Mike & Kristen Wiebe are requesting an alternate parcel transfer of 5 irrigation acres from NW 29-22-16 W4M to Abe & Mary Berg in SW 29-22-16 W4M for an existing wheel field. Soils meet requirements, and Operations has no concerns with the transfer.

2025-04-081 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the Board approve the 2025 alternate parcel transfer of 5 irrigation acres from Mike & Kristen Wiebe in NW 29-22-16 W4M to Abe & Mary Berg in SW 29-22-16 W4M. Seconded by D. Peltzer. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[11:22 a.m. S. Connauton exited the meeting; R. Volek entered.]

9.04 Grazing

R. Volek presented the following Grazing Report.

9.04.1 Report on Grazing Advisory Committee (GAC) Meeting

9.04.1.1 Draft GAC Minutes

Draft minutes were provided to Directors of the GAC Meeting held April 10th. Regular spring management and specific topics were addressed such as pasture conditions, listings, AUM rate, discontinued loan provision, PGL deductions, flexible grazing season dates, water allocation for DU

projects, solar project update, irrigated pastures, waterline projects, fireguards, fencing, crossing highways, and compensation for cattle hit on roads within leases.

9.04.1.2 GAC Motions to the EID Board of Directors

There were 4 motions for recommendations to the EID Board of Directors; 3 were carried.

GAC 25-03 *Moved by Leonard Retzlaff that the GAC recommend to the EID Board of Directors to increase the maximum listing for 2025 to 70 head per member. Seconded by Joey Stadnicki. DEFEATED*
IN FAVOUR – 5
OPPOSED – 12

Directors concurred that the maximum listing per member not be increased for the 2025 grazing season.

GAC 25-04 *Moved by Daniel Doerksen that the GAC recommend to the EID Board of Directors that the EID fund infrastructure upgrades for Community Grazing Associations, with the costs to be repaid through the grazing rates of the individual community grazing associations over a 10 year amortization period. Seconded by Duane Hale. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

Financing agreements for Community Grazing Associations (CGA) were discontinued in November 2023. The request to reinstate the loan provision was given some discussion by the Board and a summary of the background to this matter was provided. It was requested that M. Koochin review potential consequences of the District entertaining requests for loans from CGA's and will explore further questions posed by the Board.

GAC 25-05 *Moved by Duane Hale that the GAC recommend to the EID Board of Directors that each Community Grazing Association has the discretion that, if selecting a later turnout date, the Association can extend their grazing season past the set roundup date by the EID Board by the same number of deferred days or up to October 31st of the grazing season. Seconded by Landon Hopp. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

Directors were in agreement with the proposal to allow each CGA as a whole, flexible turn-out and round-up dates, up to October 31st of each year. Individual members or grazing fields will not be offered this option. If cattle are required to come home earlier than their CGA's flexible round-up date, the Association will not be charged for the lost number of days of grazing.

2025-04-082 **Moved by R. Hiebert that each Grazing Association as a whole be permitted to select a date to enter their leased community pastures which is later than the date approved by the Board of Directors and remain on the pastures for a corresponding number of days past the date approved by the Board of Directors; subject to not remaining on the pastures past October 31st. Seconded by B. Deschamps. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

GAC 25-06 *Moved by Greg Andrew to increase compensation for cattle hit on roads in community pastures where no one claims responsibility, to \$4,000/cow and \$2,200/calf. Seconded by Ron Schmidt. CARRIED*
IN FAVOUR – 12
OPPOSED – 5

Compensation is available for cattle hit and killed on roads in community grazing pastures where cattle are at large and if no one claims responsibility. The compensation is administered through

the EID and budgeted in the AUM rate. Typically there are 1 – 3 claims per year. If the responsible party is found, they are invoiced directly, at market value. In 2024, the compensation was increased to \$2,500/cow and \$1,800/calf.

2025-04-083 Moved by D. Peltzer that the compensation for cattle hit and killed on roads within Community Grazing Pastures where no one claims responsibility, be increased to \$4,000/cow and \$2,200/calf. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.04.2 Request to Transfer PGL #7076 – Paul & Kristie Paetkau to Travis & Edith Simo

Paul & Kristie Paetkau are requesting to transfer Private Grazing Lease #7076 to Travis & Edith Simo. This lease is a long-term, 15 + 15 year agreement, expiring in 2038, is transferrable to any eligible irrigator, and holds 14 remaining lease years. Travis & Edith Simo meet all land and residency eligibility requirements.

2025-04-084 Moved by J. Ketchmark that PGL #7076 be transferred from Paul & Kristie Paetkau to Travis & Edith Simo. Seconded by D. Peltzer. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.04.3 Request to Transfer PGL #7030 – Speargrass Cattle Co Ltd (Murray & Robyn Jorgensen) to Levi Hale

Speargrass Cattle Co is requesting to transfer Private Grazing Lease #7030 to Levi Hale. This lease is a long-term 15 year agreement, expiring in 2038, is transferrable to any eligible irrigator, and holds 14 remaining lease years. Levi Hale meets all land and residency eligibility requirements.

2025-04-085 Moved by J. Ketchmark that PGL #7030 be transferred from Speargrass Cattle Co Ltd to Levi Hale. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

[12:08 p.m. – 12:44 p.m. Lunch break; N. Fontaine re-entered the meeting.]

2025-04-086 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board resolve into the Committee of the Whole. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.04.4 PGL #7083 – SW 06-24-15 W4M – Update

[12:53 p.m. R. Volek exited the meeting.]

9.01 Lands, Oil & Gas cont'd

9.01.2 Request to Purchase/Trade Land – Brad Calvert – (various)

9.01.3 Expiring Irrigated Leases

[2:26 p.m. – 2:33 p.m. Short break. S. Connauton and B. Kroschel re-entered the meeting.]

[2:52 p.m. N. Fontaine exited the meeting.]

9.03 Assessment, Water & Lands cont'd

9.03.4 Rural Water Use Agreements – Pasture Irrigating Agreements



[3:28 p.m. S. Connauton exited the meeting.]

6.0 Engineering cont'd

6.06 Terminable Acres

10.0 Barry Fleming

[4:07 p.m. B. Kroschel exited the meeting; R. Drader entered.]

11.0 Safety Program Update

[4:18 p.m. R. Drader exited the meeting; N. Fontaine re-entered.]

12.0 Commercial Update

12.01 Silver Sage Ag Society – Pt NW 20-18-14 W4M

[4:30 p.m. – 4:34 p.m. Short break.]

13.0 Annual General Meeting

13.01 Review of the March 4, 2025 AGM

[4:44 p.m. N. Fontaine exited the meeting.]

13.02 Review of the AGM Draft Minutes

14.0 Legal Updates

4.0 Reports on Meetings / Events cont'd

4.04 JBS Lunch Meeting & Tour – April 1st

[5:36 p.m. B. Doerksen entered the meeting.]

15.0 Requests for Funding

15.01 Donations Overview

15.02 Brooks Farmers' Market – Bikes & Baskets Event

15.03 Brooks Composite High School – Skills Alberta Provincial Competition

[5:51 p.m. B. Doerksen exited the meeting.]

4.0 Reports on Meetings / Events cont'd

4.05 Invitation to Alberta NDP Agriculture Stampede Roundtable – July 8th**16.0 Newsletter – Draft**

2025-04-087 Moved by R. Hiebert that the meeting be reconvened. Seconded by D. Peltzer. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DIRECTION ARISING FROM THE IN CAMERA PORTION OF THE MEETING**9.04.4 PGL #7083 – SW 06-24-15 W4M – Update**

A motion was carried once reconvened.

9.01 Lands, Oil & Gas cont'd**9.01.2 Request to Purchase/Trade Land – Brad Calvert – (various)**

N. Fontaine was requested to order soils testing on District land in Pt N ½ 15 and Sec 22-17-16 W4M and request B. Calvert to obtain soils testing for SW 27-17-16 W4M.

9.01.3 Expiring Irrigated Leases

A motion was carried once reconvened.

9.03 Assessment, Water & Lands cont'd**9.03.3 Rural Water Use Agreements – Pasture Irrigating Agreements**

S. Connauton advised that signing up landowners with Country Residential agreements for Pasture Irrigating Agreements has begun and is ongoing as per requests received. Subsequent monitoring by field staff will be required. There was no direction or intent by Directors or Admin to offer this provision to irrigators with Farmyard Agreements.

6.0 Engineering cont'd**6.06 Terminable Acres**

In 2023, irrigators and other users were operating under reduced water allotments due to diminished river supply, temperature extremes, and user demand. Water availability for terminable acres is not guaranteed and when the system was at its peak of supply stress, terminable acres were denied access to water for a period of time. It has been the ongoing practice of the District to encourage landowners to convert from terminable acres to irrigation acres where possible. To progress further conversions, R. Gagley presented an overview of the 2,862 terminable acres currently assessed within the District, involving approximately 80 landowners. Parcels were categorized into the following and in certain cases there would be an opportunity to purchase additional irrigation acres:

- landowner would need to install necessary works to access EID infrastructure and then convert to irrigation acres
- landowner would need to consolidate with existing irrigation acres to meet the minimum acre rule and then convert to irrigation acres
- landowner would need to test for soils and if meeting soils requirements and the minimum acre rule, convert to irrigation acres

- parcel does not meet the minimum acre rule and there is no room for expansion; therefore, terminable acres should be removed and if there is a yard site a Country Residential Agreement would be offered

It was requested that Directors take additional time to review the aerial maps and consider the current 40 acre minimum rule, proposed accommodating timelines to convert to irrigation acres, and intent of the District to continue to reduce the amount of terminable acres. Admin will gather additional details to help define the differing issues. This topic will be brought back to the Board at a later date.

10.0 Barry Fleming

A recent meeting with Barry Fleming, Tyler Fleming, T. Hemsing, J. Ketchmark, I. Friesen, and R. Gagley was held and subsequent information conveyed through J. Ketchmark. Through follow up discussion with all Directors, there was no change in direction from the Board. It was deemed that a response letter to repeat the Board's previously communicated position was not required. J. Ketchmark will communicate back to the landowner.

11.0 Safety Program Update

Rob Drader – Safety Manager, was introduced to the Board of Directors. A number of questions were responded to by Mr. Drader and Admin.

12.0 Commercial Update

12.01 Silver Sage Ag Society – Pt NW 20-18-14 W4M

A motion was carried once reconvened.

13.0 Annual General Meeting

13.01 Review of the March 4, 2025 AGM

The letter received from George Graham regarding the Sale of District Owned Lands Policy will be discussed at a later date and/or at Corporate Planning. Lorin Doerksen's request to investigate twinning the referenced pipeline and to also investigate flow in pipelines for additional capacity is to be discussed by the Board and Admin at a later date. A meeting with a group of Gem landowners may be arranged once all soils testing, including the District's, are obtained.

13.02 Review of the AGM Draft Minutes

The AGM draft minutes will be proofread and posted on the website.

14.0 Legal Updates

Directors were updated as to a couple of legal matters.

4.0 Reports on Meetings / Events cont'd

4.04 JBS Lunch Meeting & Tour – April 1st

Admin will reach out to JBS to reiterate the District's willingness to take the treated industrial wastewater as per the EID's requirements in the previous corresponding letter. A tour of the JBS facility for EID staff may be requested for a later date.

15.0 Requests for Funding

15.01 Donations Overview

As a refresher for Directors, B. Doerksen presented a summarized guideline of the various requests that the District receives for donations/sponsorship/in-kind work and the categorized response of the District. Directors were in agreement with the outline.

15.02 Brooks Composite High School – Skills Alberta Provincial Competition

A request was received from the Brooks Composite High School for sponsorship of its skills technology team. This request was declined.

15.03 Brooks Farmers' Market – Bikes & Baskets Event

A request was received from the Brooks Farmers' Market for sponsorship of its proposed Bikes & Baskets program. This request was declined.

4.0 Reports on Meetings / Events cont'd

4.05 Invitation to Alberta NDP Agriculture Stampede Roundtable – July 8th

In addition to an invitation for 2 Directors to participate in an NDP Agriculture Stampede Roundtable in Calgary, a request was received from Heather Sweet, MLA for Edmonton-Manning, Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation to meet directly with the EID Board. I. Friesen will arrange a meeting in May or June at the EID Office.

16.0 Newsletter – Draft

The spring newsletter will be given final edits, posted to the website, and mailed to irrigators next week.

CONTINUATION OF THE AGENDA

9.0 Lands cont'd

9.04.4 PGL #7083 – SW 06-24-15 W4M – Update

In follow up to the January 28th and February 25, 2025 Board Meetings and subsequent circumstances, Private Grazing Lease #7083 was brought back to the April Meeting to authorize direction of the Board. Motion 2025-01-032 to offer the PGL to the adjacent leaseholder was in the end declined by the recipient and prior leaseholder Douglass Agro Ltd then expressed interest in leasing the parcel. Furthermore, they requested access to the lease prior to the scheduled April Meeting. Direction was given by the Board of Directors to offer a 9 month lease to Douglass Agro Ltd as per the conditions outlined in the agreement concerning livestock, fencing, waterline, and permits.

2025-04-088 Moved by R. Hiebert that PGL #7083 be offered to Douglass Agro Ltd for a 9 month period from April 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, for a fee of \$2,575; with no 640 acre or 1 parcel limitation; subject to conditions as stated in the agreement. Seconded by B. Deschamps. CARRIED
IN FAVOUR – R. Hiebert, D. Peltzer, B. Deschamps, J. Alberts, B. Schroeder, T. Hemsing
OPPOSED – J. Ketchmark

9.01.3 Expiring Irrigated Leases

In follow up to Corporate Planning and the February 25th Board Meeting, N. Fontaine presented irrigation equipment appraisals from 2 dealers for the 8 expiring irrigated leases, questions from current lessees, and a request for direction on these matters.

The Board advised to:

- average the 2 pivot company quotes per machine and submit individual offers to lessees of #8271 E, #8271 W, 8250, 8251, 8255, 8267, and 8266 to purchase the used pivots;
- request lessees of #8254 and 8256 to remove their pivots from their lease parcels by a determined date; and
- maintain the District's standard payment to lessees of 50% of the current day mainline materials and installation cost, with no compensation for the power cable, pump pads, or any other items.

It was confirmed that the new irrigated lease agreements will:

- be leased for a 5 year term;
- have no minimum bid;
- permit subletting;
- not require corporate entity searches; however,
- the 320 acre maximum as previously stated will revert back to the standard 640 acre maximum.

~~2025-02-039 Moved by B. Schroeder that upon expiry of Irrigated Leases #8250, #8251, #8254, #8255, #8256, #8266, #8267, and #8271, the leases be:~~

- ~~• individually auctioned for a 5-year term with no minimum bid requirement;~~
- ~~• with a 320 acre maximum limitation per lessee of all current irrigated leases;~~
- ~~• with no lessee residency requirement, but the lessee must own irrigated acres within the EID;~~
- ~~• with subletting allowed, but no option to transfer, and no automatic renewal; and~~
- ~~• including a crop management plan for specialty crops (seed canola, sugar beets, potatoes, and beans), land stewardship clause, and pivot maintenance clause.~~

~~Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY [rescinded by motion 2025-04-089]~~

2025-04-089 Moved by J. Ketchmark that motion 2025-02-039 be rescinded and that upon expiry of Irrigated Leases #8250, #8251, #8254, #8255, #8256, #8266, #8267, and #8271, the leases be:

- **individually auctioned for a 5-year term with no minimum bid requirement;**
- **with a 640 acre maximum limitation per lessee of all current irrigated leases;**
- **with no lessee residency requirement, but the lessee must own irrigated acres within the EID;**
- **with no option to transfer and no automatic renewal; and**
- **including a crop management plan for specialty crops (seed canola, sugar beets, potatoes, and beans), land stewardship clause, and pivot maintenance clause.**

Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED

IN FAVOUR – R. Hiebert, D. Peltzer, B. Deschamps, J. Alberts, J. Ketchmark, B. Schroeder

OPPOSED – T. Hemsing

The irrigated lease auction is anticipated to be held in August 2025.

12.0 Commercial Update cont'd

12.01 Silver Sage Ag Society – Pt NW 20-18-14 W4M

In continuation of discussions with the Silver Sage Ag Society (SSAS) and regarding the associated leased parcel Pt NW 20-18-14 W4M, a concluding motion was made to finalize the transfer of the parcel to the SSAS. This District contribution was made in support of the SSAS development plans and for the benefit of the greater community. Preparation of the documentation will proceed, with an official public announcement to be held at a later date.

2025-04-090 Moved by B. Deschamps that in follow up to motion 2025-03-059, the agreement and related documentation to donate and transfer to the Silver Sage Agricultural Society a portion of NW Section 20-18-14 W4M not include a right of first refusal in favour of the District. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

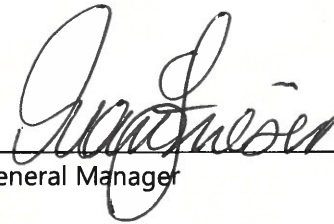
17.0 Upcoming Events

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|--|
| 17.01 | Regular Board Meeting | - Tuesday, May 27 th , 9:00 a.m. |
| 17.02 | Regular Board Meeting | - Tuesday, June 24 th , 9:00 a.m. |

R. Hiebert moved adjournment of the meeting at 6:07 p.m.



Chairman



General Manager