

**July 22, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting**

The Directors of the Eastern Irrigation District held a regular meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 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.

**1.0 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as presented.

**2025-07-133 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board adopt the Agenda as presented. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2.0 Approval of Minutes****2.01 June 24, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting**

The minutes of the June 24, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting were accepted as presented.

**2025-07-134 Moved by B. Deschamps that the Minutes of the June 24, 2025, Regular Directors Meeting be approved as presented. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[9:00 a.m. R. Summach entered the meeting.]

**3.0 Engineering****3.01 Main Bantry Canal Bank Lift**

R. Summach presented the Main Bantry Canal Bank Lift project synopsis. The Main Bantry Canal supplies water from Lake Newell Reservoir to Rolling Hills, Tilley, One Tree, and Patricia areas. The earthen Brooks Aqueduct, which replaced the concrete aqueduct in 1978, allows the EID to get water across a low area to these regions. The earthen aqueduct is 4 km long, includes a syphon under a railway, and has a capacity of 950 cfs. Although the canal was designed with a maximum height of 16 m it has settled up to 50 cm over the past near-50 years. While it is currently possible to convey 950 cfs there would only be 40 cm of freeboard instead of the designed 90 cm. It is being recommended to increase the height of the banks with clay material and add armour at an estimated cost of \$708,000 to be funded under the Capital Works program. A number of questions were responded to by Mr. Summach.

- 2025-07-135 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approve the Main Bantry Canal Bank Lift rehabilitation project to increase the height of the canal banks for an estimated cost of \$708,000; to be funded under the Capital Works program. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[9:04 a.m. R. Summach exited the meeting.]

#### **4.0 Business Arising**

A Director gave comment to a follow up meeting with a landowner concerning the Lower North Branch conveyance system.

#### **5.0 Reports on Meetings / Events**

##### **5.01 Crawling Valley Recreation Society – June 24<sup>th</sup>**

D. Peltzer attended a CVRS Meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup>. A number of miscellaneous matters from the meeting were conveyed to the Board.

##### **5.02 Northwest Irrigation Operators (NWIO) Tour – Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> in EID**

D. Peltzer, B. Schroeder, T. Hemsing, and I. Friesen attended one day of the NWIO Tour in southern Alberta. The morning of June 25<sup>th</sup>, sites within the BRID were toured, stopping in at current and proposed reservoir sites, a pipeline project, a weed control system, and a landowner's demonstration of pivot technology for variable irrigation. In the afternoon, EID staff and Admin toured the group at the Rolling Hills Reservoir Campground, Rolling Hills Reservoir pump station, Kitsim Reservoir, and proposed Eyremore dam site.

##### **5.03 Alberta NDP Agriculture Stampede Roundtable – Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, Calgary**

Along with other irrigation district representatives, T. Hemsing and R. Hiebert took part in the Alberta NDP Agriculture Roundtable in Calgary on July 8<sup>th</sup> to foster an understanding of the economic, social, and environmental benefits of irrigated agriculture and associated matters.

##### **5.04 Tour of Crop Diversification Centre – South – July 10<sup>th</sup>**

Directors were invited by the County to tour the Crop Diversification Centre – South on July 10<sup>th</sup>. D. Peltzer, B. Deschamps, and J. Alberts were toured through administrative buildings, greenhouses, and grounds, and were advised of possible uses for the site.

#### **6.0 Upcoming Events**

##### **6.01 Irrigated Lease Auction – Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m., EID Office**

4 new and 8 previously leased EID parcels will be individually live-auctioned for a term of 5 years.

##### **6.02 Alberta Open Farm Days – Bassano Dam Tours – Saturday & Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**

A Director requested that a tour of the Bassano Dam be arranged for the Board in the near future.

##### **6.03 Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.**

**6.04 Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00 a.m.**

[9:18 a.m. S. Barlow entered the meeting.]

**7.0 Financial Report**

S. Barlow presented the following Financial Report.

**7.01 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Investment Report to June 30, 2025**

The book value of the District's investments plus bank account balances at June 30, 2025, was \$6.65M or 7.24% less than the book value at September 30, 2024.

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT to June 30, 2025</b>		
<b>Investment</b>	<b>Matured</b>	<b>Purchased</b>
EID – Short Term	\$2,200,000	-
EID – Long Term	-	-
Irrigation Rehabilitation Program – Short Term	-	-
Partners in Habitat Development – Short Term	-	-
Alberta Irrigation Modernization – Short Term	-	-
Alberta Irrigation Modernization – Long Term	-	\$4,000,000

**2025-07-136 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Investment Report to June 30, 2025, as presented. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**7.02 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Accounts Receivable Report to June 30, 2025**

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

**2025-07-137 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Accounts Receivable Report to June 30, 2025, as presented. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**7.03 Financial Statements to June 30, 2025**

The financial statements to June 30, 2025, were reviewed, noting the following overall:

- YTD revenues total about \$41.3 million and are tracking over YTD budget.
- YTD net operating expenses total about \$27.3 million and are tracking under YTD budget.
- YTD potential transfer to the Irrigation Works Fund is approximately \$13.9 million.

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

**2025-07-138 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board approve the Financial Statements to June 30, 2025, as presented. Seconded by J. Alberts. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[9:37 a.m. S. Barlow exited the meeting; B. Kroschel entered.]

**3.0 Engineering cont'd**

R. Gagley presented the following Engineering Report.

### 3.02 Drain Relo – Meyer Farms Ltd (Ben Meyer) – NW 07-17-13 W4M

R. Gagley advised that Ben Meyer is requesting a drain relocation in NW 07-17-13 W4M to allow for more irrigation on the parcel. The drain severs the SE corner of the quarter, and the landowner is requesting that it be relocated to the boundary lines. By policy, the EID pays 50% up to \$50,000 on approved drain and canal relocations; the estimated eligible project costs are \$26,672.

**2025-07-139 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approved the Farm Improvement Drain Relocation for Meyer Farms Ltd in NW 07-17-13 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 \$26,672; of which the landowner will pay \$13,336 + GST. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 8.0 Operations

B. Kroschel presented the following Operations Report.

### 8.01 Reservoir Status and Water Use to Date

The majority of the region continued to experience appreciable rainfall over the last month. Reservoirs are at near-full capacity and canals have been cut back to minimum flows as overall usage has dropped across the District.

WATER USE TO DATE – as of July 15, 2025		
	July 2025	July 2024
Water Diverted to Date	296,826 ac-ft (11.52")	230,181 ac-ft (8.64")
Water Applied to Land to Date	5.52"	4.2"
Range of Parcels Irrigating	11 – 875	169 – 1,052
Parcels Using Over 12"	55	12
Parcels Using Over 16"	6	0
Parcels Using Over 20"	0	0
Total Firm Live Storage*	290,106 ac-ft	288,183 ac-ft

\* Only includes main reservoirs

### 8.02 Review Current Operating Stage

The current operating stage was reviewed, and a discussion was held on whether to adjust from Stage 2 to Stage 1 within the Drought Plan Guidelines. Considerations included reservoir levels, river supply, current and predicted usage, soil moisture levels, and particular crop requirements.

**2025-07-140 Moved by D. Peltzer that the District move effective as of Tuesday, July 22, 2025 to Stage 1 of the Drought Plan as prescribed by the Maximum Water Delivery Bylaw #970 (2024), thereby making the total amount of water available to irrigators for the 2025 irrigation season being limited to 24" per acre and allowing up to 4" per acre of water deliveries to be purchased, until further review by the Board. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[9:49 a.m. B. Kroschel exited the meeting.]

## 9.0 Equipment

### 9.01 Sale of Used Pickups

Invitations for bids on the purchase of 10 used trucks as listed below were sent to 2 auctioneers. Bids were received from Annett Auction Services and Team Auctions.

SALE OF USED TRUCKS			
Amount	Make	Year	Km
8	1500 Dodge Ram	2010 – 2021	140,000 – 270,000
2	2500 Dodge Ram	2012 & 2016	270,000 & 268,000

**2025-07-141 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the District sells the specified 10 used pickups through Annett Auction Services at 5% commission. Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[9:52 a.m. R. Moen entered the meeting.]

## 10.0 EIDNet

R. Moen presented the following EIDNet Report.

### 10.01 Monthly Report

Some operational issues resulted from Friday's rainstorm, but most customers have had their service resumed. The Brooks tower was hit by lightning and 1 sector radio was lost; however, it was previously scheduled for replacement. A number of questions were responded to by Mr. Moen.

3 <sup>rd</sup> QUARTER EIDNET REPORT to July 14, 2025	
EIDNet Accounts	Current Customers
Legacy Residential Accounts	23
Residential Accounts	1,437
Business Accounts	372
EID Automation	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,925</b>

[9:59 a.m. R. Moen exited the meeting; R. Volek entered.]

## 11.0 Lands

### 11.01 Grazing

R. Volek presented the following Grazing Report.

#### 11.01.1 Results of Hay Tender – Pivot D – NE 02 & SE 11-20-15 W4M

Pivot D near Rock Lake Reservoir was reseeded to permanent pasture in 2024. Growth was exceptional and it was decided to tender out this parcel for hay production in July and allow it to regrow for fall grazing. Only 1 bid was received. The bid was based upon an estimated yield of 225 tons for the 107 acre irrigated parcel.

STANDING HAY – PIVOT D		
Bidder	\$/Ton (2,000 lb)	Total Bid \$
DLM Feeders Inc (Dallas Martin)	\$91.25	\$20,531.25

Upon review, the bid reflected current market values and was accepted. The hay was baled on July 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, and the yield is higher than the bid estimate. The bidder will be invoiced for the extra tons at the bid price. Regrowth on the pasture looks favourable.

[10:03 a.m. R. Volek exited the meeting; S. Connauton entered.]

## 11.02 Assessment, Water & Lands

### 11.02.1 Assessment Report to June 30, 2025

The Assessment Report for the period of April 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025, was presented, summarized as follows.

3 <sup>rd</sup> QUARTER EID WATER ROLL to June 30, 2025					
Acres on the Water Roll	Irrigation Acres	Terminable Acres	Annual Agreement	5R Soils Acres	Total
April 1, 2025	316,321	2,862	0	367	319,550
June 30, 2025	318,810	2,862	0	367	322,039
Net increase	2,489	0	0	0	2,489
<b>Irrigation Acres Removed from the Water Roll</b> (acres sold back for new subdivisions or part of Farm Improvement)					< 4 >
<b>Irrigation Acres Added to the Water Roll</b> (acres purchased through Irrigation Dev. App. or Farm Improvement efficiencies)					2,493
Terminable Acres Converted to Irrigation Acres					< 0 >
Terminable Acres Canceled					< 0 >

3 <sup>rd</sup> QUARTER CAPITAL ASSETS REVENUE REPORT	
Irrigation Acre Purchases	\$8,981,500
Terminable Acre Conversions	\$0
Annual Agreements	\$0
5R Soil Agreements	\$0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$8,981,500</b>

### 11.02.2 Farm Improvement Grant Applications and Increases in Irrigation Acres Applications

#### 11.02.2.1 Flood to Pivot – David Virovek – NW 24-17-13 W4M

- Previous Assessment: 103 acres flood
- Current Assessment: 107 acres flood (4 acres added for 1995 general assessment)
- Converting: 103 acres flood to corner arm pivot; landowner is choosing to sell back the 4 acres outside the pivot area to the EID
- New Assessment: 103 acres, all under corner arm pivot

**2025-07-142 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for David Virovek for the conversion of 103 acres flood to corner arm pivot in NW 24-17-13 W4M. The Farm Improvement Grant payable to the Landowner is \$10,300 (103 acres x \$100/acre). Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2025-07-143 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board approve the purchase of David Virovek's 4 irrigation acres in NW 24-17-13 W4M; 4 acres x \$3,672/acre = \$14,688. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11.02.2.2 Flood to Pivot – WB Alberts Produce Co Ltd (Janice Alberts) – SE 30-19-13 W4M**

- Previous Assessment: 143 acres flood
- Current Assessment: 138 acres flood (5 acres removed for subdivision consent in 1990)
- Converting: 117 acres flood to wiper pivot; landowner is choosing to keep 21 acres outside the pivot area
- Assessment remains the same at 138 acres (117 acres wiper pivot, 21 flood acres outside)

**2025-07-144 Moved by D. Peltzer that the Board approve the Farm Improvement for WB Alberts Produce Co Ltd for the conversion of 117 acres flood to wiper pivot in SE 30-19-13 W4M. The Farm Improvement Grant payable to the Landowner is \$11,700 (117 acres x \$100/acre) – \$10,500 (21 acres x \$500/acre deduction for keeping acres outside the pivot area) = \$1,200. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11.02.2.3 Increase – Cinsan Enterprises Ltd (Sandy Bartman) – SE 09-20-14 W4M**

- Current Assessment: 127 acres
- Proposal: increase pivot size; 12 acres needed (infill)
- Efficiency Acres Gained: 0
- New Assessment: 139 acres, all under pivot
- Notes: soils meet requirements; project must be completed by July 31, 2026

**2025-07-145 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the Board approve the Increase in Irrigation Acres application for Cinsan Enterprises Ltd for 12 infill acres in SE 09-20-14 W4M. The capital assets charge is \$18,360 (12 acres x \$1,530/acre). Seconded by D. Peltzer. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11.02.2.4 Increase – Cinsan Enterprises Ltd (Sandy Bartman) – NE 04-20-14 W4M**

- Previous Assessment: 140 acres
- Current Assessment: 145 acres (5 acres added in 1995)
- Proposal: increase pivot size; 7 acres needed (infill)
- Efficiency Acres Gained: 0
- New Assessment: 152 acres, all under pivot
- Notes: soils meet requirements; project must be completed by July 31, 2026

**2025-07-146 Moved by J. Ketchmark that the Board approve the Increase in Irrigation Acres application for Cinsan Enterprises Ltd for 7 infill acres in NE 04-20-14 W4M. The capital assets charge is \$10,710 (7 acres x \$1,530/acre). Seconded by B. Deschamps. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[10:10 a.m. T. Helsing declared a pecuniary interest and exited the meeting.]

**11.02.2.5 Increase – Hemsing Farms Ltd (Tracy & Michele Hemsing) – SW 13-15-14 W4M**

- Current Assessment: 150 acres
- Proposal: extend corner arm where previously obstructed; 2 acres needed (infill)
- Efficiency Acres Gained: 0
- New Assessment: 152 acres, all under corner arm pivot
- Notes: soils meet requirements; project must be completed by July 31, 2026

**2025-07-147 Moved by B. Schroeder that the Board approve the Increase in Irrigation Acres application for Hemsing Farms Ltd for 2 infill acres in SW 13-15-14 W4M. The capital assets charge is \$3,060 (2 acres x \$1,530/acre). Seconded by R. Hiebert. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

[10:11 a.m. T. Hemsing rejoined the meeting.]

[10:12 a.m. – 10:17 a.m. Short break; S. Connauton exited the meeting; B. Kroschel re-entered.]

**2025-07-148 Moved by R. Hiebert that the Board resolve into the Committee of the Whole. Seconded by B. Schroeder. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**12.0 District Housing**

[10:31 a.m. B. Kroschel exited the meeting.]

[10:31 a.m. Michelle Phaneuf – Consultant, connected to the meeting.]

**10:30 a.m. Workplace Fairness – Michelle Phaneuf**

[10:35 a.m. I. Friesen, M. Koochin, R. Gagley, and W. Enns exited the meeting.]

[10:55 a.m. M. Phaneuf disconnected from the meeting.]

[10:56 a.m. I. Friesen, M. Koochin, R. Gagley, and W. Enns rejoined the meeting.]

[10:57 a.m. R. Drader entered the meeting.]

**13.0 Safety Program Update**

[11:36 a.m. – 12:12 p.m. Lunch break; R. Drader exited the meeting]

**591155 Alberta Ltd (Doerksen) Irrigation Development Application**

[12:53 p.m. J. Kabut entered the meeting.]

**14.0 Letter from John Miller**

[1:03 p.m. J. Kabut exited the meeting.]

[1:03 p.m. Arno Doerksen, Daniel Doerksen, Lorin Doerksen, and Barry Doerksen entered the meeting.]

**1:00 p.m. 591155 Alberta Ltd (Doerksen) Irrigation Development Application**



[2:09 p.m. A. Doerksen, D. Doerksen, L. Doerksen, and B. Doerksen exited the meeting.]

[2:30 p.m. – 2:36 p.m. Short break.]

#### **14.0 Letter from John Miller cont'd**

[2:44 p.m. J. Kabut re-entered the meeting.]

#### **15.0 Dick Vossepoel - NW 05-17-12 W4M**

[3:19 p.m. J. Kabut exited the meeting.]

#### **16.0 Legal & Corporate Services**

##### **16.01 Legal Update**

#### **17.0 Commercial Update**

**2025-07-149 Moved by R. Hiebert that the meeting be reconvened. Seconded by J. Ketchmark. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

#### **12.0 District Housing**

Direction was given to staff.

#### **10:30 a.m. Workplace Fairness – Michelle Phaneuf**

The Board was updated as to this matter.

#### **13.0 Safety Program Update**

A quarterly Safety Program update was presented to the Board and questions responded to by Mr. Drader and Admin. In response to a Director's question, Admin confirmed that EID employees are to continue telling the public that they are not to swim in EID canals, ditches, ponds, and dugouts. The primary purpose of EID works is for irrigation purposes and there are various known and unknown hazards that could arise from time to time from factors such as unexpected water fluctuations, currents, objects under water, and surface run-off.

#### **591155 Alberta Ltd (Doerksen) Irrigation Development Application**

Board and Admin pre-discussion was held.

#### **14.0 Letter from John Miller**

Discussion of this matter was continued after a scheduled presentation.

#### **1:00 p.m. 591155 Alberta Ltd (Doerksen) Irrigation Development Application**

Further to motion 2025-02-047, the landowner presentation at this meeting, and subsequent Board discussion, a letter of response is to be forwarded following the meeting stating that the Board has determined that Doerksen has not satisfied the conditions of the EID on or before July 21, 2025 and is unwilling to extend the July 31, 2025 deadline for the landowner to complete its irrigation

development project as applied for in 2023 and reviewed by the Irrigation Council Appeal Panel in 2024.

**14.0 Letter from John Miller cont'd**

Direction was given to staff.

**15.0 Dick Vossepoel - NW 05-17-12 W4M**

A motion was carried once reconvened.

**16.0 Legal & Corporate Services**

**16.01 Legal Update**

Directors were provided with an update on a legal matter and direction was given to Admin.

**17.0 Commercial Update**

Directors were provided with an update on a commercial matter and direction was given to Admin

CONTINUATION OF THE AGENDA

**15.0 Dick Vossepoel - NW 05-17-12 W4M cont'd**

A request was received from Dick Vossepoel to purchase approximately 9 acres of District land in NW 05-17-12 W4M. This triangular parcel in the NE corner of the quarter section is currently severed from the quarter by a District drain. Mr. Vossepoel is requesting to purchase the property to enable his corner arm pivot to make a full rotation within the quarter.

**2025-07-150 Moved by B. Deschamps that the District sell to Dick Vossepoel an approximate 9 acre parcel of land in NW 05-17-12 W4M to accommodate a full quarter section rotation of the existing corner arm pivot, for \$2,500/acre on dry acres and \$10,500 on irrigated acres; subject to:**

- the cost of moving the drain being the responsibility of the purchaser;
- all survey costs, subdivision costs, legal fees, consolidation fees, and any other fees associated with the land purchase (such as fencing) being the responsibility of the purchaser; and

**provided soils meet the required criteria.**

**Seconded by J. Alberts. CARRIED**

**IN FAVOUR – R. Hiebert, D. Peltzer, B. Deschamps, J. Alberts, T. Hemsing**

**OPPOSED – J. Ketchmark, B. Schroeder**

It was advised that current land sale values are to be examined at the upcoming Corporate Planning sessions, along with the Sale of District Owned Lands Policy.

**R. Hiebert moved adjournment of the meeting at 3:46 p.m.**



Chairman



General Manager