

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Kaleden Irrigation District held at the Kaleden Community Hall on Monday, April 26, 2010.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by the Chairman, Mike Gane.

In attendance were: 8 Ratepayers, 1 Non-ratepayer, Chairman, Mike Gane, Trustees, Chris Scott, Len Bzdel, Diana MacDonald, Sam Hancheroff, Super Kevin Huey, Assistant Michael Snair and Administrator, Cheryl Halla.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 were reviewed by ratepayers. Moved by J. Bland, seconded by F. King, that the minutes be adopted as printed.

**Carried.**

There were no questions, errors or omissions received from the floor.

### **Chairman/Trustee Report :**

Chairman, Mike Gane gave a slide presentation on some of the District's current issues and future plans which included:

2010 Rate Increase:- The rate increase for 2010 will be 2%.

Fortis Rate Re-Structure Proposal: - Fortis BC is in the process of submitting an application to increase power rates significantly over the next five years, through a proposed rate restructure. The matter will be going before the BC Utilities Commission for a ruling.

District Ten Year Capital Works Plan: - The new ten year capital works plan is nearly complete. With Interior Health Authority dictating water quality upgrades, the District could be faced with massive capital costs.

Water Metering Program: - The Trustees have started to include in our budget monies for a future water metering program. This would turn KID rates from a flat rate per household to a user pay formula.

Water Conservation Program / Drought - With much talk about drought this year, the District is embarking on a staged water conservation program this irrigation season. The Chair outlined the various stages that could be implemented. He then complimented residents on their conservation efforts during the past year.

The Chair thanked staff members Kevin, Cheryl and Michael for their continued efforts and thanked ratepayers for coming out to the meeting in support of the District.

Following the report, there was one question from ratepayer Diane Sketchley with respect to when watering restrictions will start; the response was that Stage One would be in effect during the entire irrigation season from April 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>, and Stages Two and Three would be implemented as the Trustees deem necessary.

There were no additional questions from the floor.

### **Kaleden Irrigation District History:**

Trustee, Len Bzdel gave a slide presentation on the history of Kaleden; the slides included a description of our water system, acres covered, average gallons pumped, and what our water licence allows. He showed graphs on the yearly and monthly consumption, as well as a graph on water rate comparisons for several other districts. He explained BC's Health Authorities, and outlined some of the inconsistencies between the regional authorities, making reference to our operating permit, which is issued each year by the Interior Health Authority. Len further outlined the filtration policy of Interior Health Authority, making reference to BC's *Drinking Water Protection Act*. Len explained the 4,3,2,1,0 mandate of Interior Health Authority, and what this means to our District in terms of capital upgrades that are being considered in our new Ten Year Capital Works Plan. Len outlined each option proposed in the plan, including groundwater sources, point of use systems, full filtration with chlorination, filtration deferral with UV and chlorine treatment, and water system twinning. He briefly explained that our historical water quality data is being ignored in Interior Health's blanket filtration policy. He stressed the importance conservation in the District.

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**Kaleden Irrigation District History Cont'd:**

The following questions were received from the floor: Jane Bland asked what our boundaries were; Superintendent, Kevin Huey explained. Bruce Shepherd inquired what would happen if the ratepayers don't agree with Interior Health's mandate; Super, Kevin Huey responded that Interior Health may step in and order us to comply. Jane Bland inquired if we could become a society; Kevin Huey replied that we cannot, as we are already governed under the *Local Government Act*. Fred King inquired what costs we would be looking at for filtration deferral; The Chair responded that we are currently awaiting completion of our Capital Works Plan from T.R.U.E. Consulting, and Kevin Huey further explained the filtration deferral process, which IH may ultimately not approve. Jane Bland inquired who exactly governs us; Kevin Huey replied that the District is administratively governed by the Ministry of Community and Rural Development, however, Interior Health issues our operating permit. Darlene Bailey inquired what the cost is for T.R.U.E. Consulting; the response was that we have budgeted \$20,000 for completion of the Capital Works Plan. Trustee, Chris Scott commented that the KID intends to have a public campaign to inform our ratepayers, once our Ten Year Capital Works Plan is completed. Sue Kelly inquired where the costs of projects come from; Chair, Mike Gane, stated that an estimate is in the preliminary capital works plan, completed by T.R.U.E. Consulting. Darlene Bailey inquired as to why growing grass on a five acre parcel qualifies for daytime watering restriction exemption; Super, Kevin Huey responded that these types of properties are restricted through a District Dole valve, and as they pay per acre, they pay for the full allotment through taxes. The Chair commented that the only fair way to control consumption is through metering.

There were no additional questions from the floor.

**Superintendent's Report on Operations 2009:**

Super Kevin Huey provided a written report to ratepayers, and outlined details in a slide presentation, which included:

Water consumption increased in 2009 from 2008 by 36,000,000 U.S. Gallons. The irrigation usage is the highest demand with respect to total gallons used and peak flow, with the weather having a direct influence on water usage. The District is in the process of completing a study by Larratt Aquatic Consulting, that began in 2009, to monitor and examine the possible causes of an algae bloom in Skaha Lake, which caused a taste and odor problem for a period of time. We secured a grant in the amount \$5,000 from the Okanagan Basin Water Board to offset part of the cost of the study; the final study will form part of our Source Water Protection Plan, required to be completed under our operating permit by Interior Health Authority. The District did not install a hydrant in 2009, noting that there is one to be installed with a development, that did not get completed last year. In order to plan for future major equipment replacements, we have completed a listing of the pump house building and equipment, with estimated dates for replacement. This listing was helpful for completion of our Tangible Capital Asset reporting, now required as part of our financial statements. Kevin Huey continues to serve as a director of the Water Supply Association, which continues to lobby the government for Improvement Districts to be able to obtain infrastructure grant funding. Reference was made to Interior Health's 4,3,2,1,0 mandate. Kevin stressed the importance of avoiding any cross connections in the system, and briefly explained fertigation and the proper back flow device required to be installed. He further stressed the importance of continuing with a water conservation program in the District to save water and reduce pumping costs. He thanked the Trustees and other staff members for their dedication and time to allow the District to operate as efficiently as it does.

Following the presentation, there were no questions received from the floor.

**Financial Statement for the Year Ending December 31, 2009:**

The financial statement prepared by *Colette A. Straatsma, CGA* was presented to all attendees. C. Halla reviewed the statement page by page, explaining the new format of the statements, in conjunction with tangible capital asset reporting and budget reporting.

There were no questions received from the floor.

Moved by Fred King, seconded by Sue Kelly, the Financial Statement for the year ending December 31, 2009 be adopted as printed.

**Carried.**

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**Remuneration of Trustees for 2010-2011:**

Remuneration of Trustees was discussed. It was noted that remuneration remained at status quo in 2009. The Chair explained the number of meetings and approximate hours a trustee may work in a year. Moved by Fred King, that trustee remuneration be increased by 5% for 2010. There was no seconder for the motion. Darlene Bailey inquired what the staff received for an increase, if any for this year. The response was .4% as per the COLA rate. Moved by Darlene Bailey, that trustees receive an increase to their remuneration for 2010 in the amount .4%, as per the COLA rate. The motion was seconded by Jane Bland.

**Carried.**

**Introduction of Candidates for the Position of Trustee:**

It was explained by Chair, Mike Gane, that there is currently one Trustee position open, for a three year term. One nomination paper has been received, from incumbent, Chris Scott, whose term is expiring. The nominee has accepted the nomination. Mike Gane thanked Chris for his continued interest in the District. It was then announced that as there is only one nomination received, Chris Scott, is hereby elected by acclamation, for a three year term. The setting of an election date is therefore not required.

**New Business:**

Sue Kelly commented that the announcement that the District may have to undertake in large capital projects that could have a significant financial impact on the District is somewhat disturbing and suggested that we should endeavor to get as many people involved in the affairs of the District as possible. Brief discussion was made on the local paper *Skaha Matters*, and potential cost to publish articles in the paper. Fred King thanked the Board and staff for the meeting and their devotion to water quality in the District.

There was no further new business received from the floor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M. on motion of Fred King.