

Wheatland County

Request for Decision

Regular Council Meeting

September 15, 2020

Report prepared by: Mike Ziehr, GM of Transportation and Agriculture



Western Irrigation District Commercial Conveyance Agreement – NE 8-25-26

Recommendation from Administration

That Wheatland County Council approve entering into the Commercial Water Conveyance agreement with Western Irrigation District for the purpose of diverting water from the Bow River within SE 13-21-01 W5 through the Works for Municipal Subdivision Water Supply purposes within NE 8-25-26 W4 (The Lakes of Muirfield).

Chief Administrative Officer's Comments

N/A

Report

Division: Division 5

On April 30, 2020 the County took ownership and control of the water system for the Lakes of Muirfield development (i.e. the 'water-in'; water treatment plant, raw water storage/reservoirs, distribution system, water licences and approvals, related lands and rights-of ways).

Raw water is supplied to the Lakes of Muirfield development through the Western Irrigation District (WID) irrigation works and stored in raw water reservoirs. This raw water is then transferred into the adjacent water treatment plant for treatment and distribution to the residents of the Lakes of Muirfield.

The County is required to enter into an agreement with the WID to allow the conveyance of this water from the diversion point on the Bow River to the raw water reservoirs located on the site.

This agreement has a term of five (5) water seasons beginning May 1, 2021 and ending on September 30, 2025. The current agreement ends on September 30th, 2020.

Relevant Policies, Practices, and Legislation

N/A

Alignment with the Strategic Plan

Wheatland County is committed to provide services that recognize and encourage balanced, sustainable, long term growth and opportunities. We advocate prudent use of our resources and promote a quality of life for our citizens that reflect our agriculture heritage.

Response Options

Option 1: THAT the proposed recommendation is accepted/approved.

Option 2: THAT the proposed recommendation is not accepted/approved.

Option 3: THAT an alternate recommendation is accepted/approved.

Implications of Recommendation

General

This agreement is integral for Wheatland County to meet their municipal requirements of supplying potable water to the Lakes of Muirfield development.

Organizational

N/A

Financial

The County would be responsible for the annual payment which is calculated by multiplying the total volume of water permitted to be diverted under the Water Users Licence times the rate per acre-foot being the rate applicable to Commercial Conveyance Agreements as is set by resolution of the Board. The rate set for 2020 is \$72/acre foot. The minimum amount payable under this agreement shall be the equivalent of the charge for 15 acre feet. The estimated cost of this in 2019 was \$21,000.

Environmental, Staff, and Public Safety

The supply of raw water for treatment is essential to the process of providing safe and secure potable water for Wheatland County ratepayers.

Follow-up Action / Communications

If approved, the agreement will be signed by the County and forwarded onto WID for finalizing.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Western Irrigation District Commercial Conveyance Agreement – NE 8-25-26.docx
Attachments:	- WHEATLAND COUNTY NE 8-25-26 COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCE.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Sep 8, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MZ' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Michael Ziehr

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brian Henderson' in a cursive script.

Brian Henderson