

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ON THE 23 MAY 2008, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

#### PRESENT:

R. Scarlett (Chairman), P. Ewen, B. Chinn, T. Archer, A. Robb, A. Birchfield, D. Davidson,

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), Various Submitters,  
T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

#### 1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

#### 2. ANNUAL PLAN SUBMISSIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chairman explained that this meeting was to hear submissions on the Council's Draft Annual Plan 2008/09 after which, Councillors will discuss the submissions and decisions would be made at a later date.

#### PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

##### Submissions on the Draft Annual Plan

##### Community & Public Health and West Coast District Health Board – Planning and Funding (Christopher Bergin)

Mr Christopher Bergin presented this submission to the Council, on behalf of Community & Public Health and West Coast District Health Board – Planning and Funding. He thanked Council for the opportunity to speak.

The first matter Mr Bergin spoke about was on site sewage disposal in areas with poor soakage. Mr Bergin stated that there are very few tools available to identify where a problem is likely to occur. Often one septic tanks fails, then another in the same area fails until it is realised that there is a wider problem with sewerage in an area. Mr Bergin spoke of the resentment felt by those who have spent money on a new system only to find that they must pay again to join the sewerage scheme. Because there is no feasible way to monitor every consent for a septic tank, he suggested targeted stormwater drain monitoring to gain good data relating to these problem areas. He tabled stormwater monitoring data from Blackball.

The second part of the submission Mr Bergin spoke about was new legislation regarding the National Environmental Standard for sources of human drinking water under the Resource Management Act. Mr Bergin is suggesting that if there is a large industrial activity close to the intake that the Regional Council let the District Council know so that know information regarding water quality can be shared.

Cr Archer thanked Mr Bergin for his submission.

**Moved** (Scarlett / Archer) That Council receive this written submission for consideration.

*Carried*

## **Federated Farmers of New Zealand**

A written submission was received and taken as read.

**Moved** (Scarlett / Chinn) That Council receive this written submission for consideration.

*Carried*

## **Paul Elwell-Sutton**

This submission was taken as read.

**Moved** (Scarlett / Birchfield) That Council receive this written submission for consideration.

*Carried*

## **Karamea Residents Opposed to Aerial Application of 1080**

### **Mr Michael Toseland**

Mr M. Toseland presented his submission. He outlined his concerns relating to possum control operations. He is concerned that close to \$1M is spent on administration. He believes that rates of Tb have not improved in the 18 years that he has lived on the West Coast. He stated that the possum numbers are down but the Tb rates aren't.

He has concerns about the monitoring of possum numbers.

The Chairman explained to Mr Toseland that WCRC are the contractor and that it would be more appropriate that Mr Toseland's questions are directed to the Animal Health Board.

Mr Toseland outlined his concerns regarding sustainable management for future generations. He drew attention to the ERMA Report and stated that he hoped Council was familiar with this report. Mr Toseland spoke of the water management plan and asked if this is being considered during the next aerial operation. He quoted the ERMA Report where it urges users of 1080 to work with the fur industry and ensure that local trappers and hunters be given maximum opportunity to participate in pest control programmes. He feels this will gain much more effective control of possum numbers.

Cr Archer asked Mr Toseland what are the other means of eradication. Mr Toseland responded that local trappers and hunters could carry out this work if there is money in it.

The Chairman thanked Mr Toseland for his submission.

### **J & M Roumieu**

Mr Roumieu stated the he has been advised that their submission is not relevant to the Annual Plan.

### **Mr Cleveland McKay**

Mr McKay spoke to his submission. He stated that he believes there is inconsistency with what council is doing. Mr McKay spoke of legal responsibilities relating to the water management plan and land management plans. Mr McKay stated that he concerned about the impact that aerial distribution of 1080 could have on tourism. He stated that council has the requirement to take into account the economical wellbeing of its residents across the whole of the coast. He stated that the Draft Annual Plan does not address the issue of tourism in relation to 1080 and the negative impacts of 1080 on tourism. Mr McKay stated that council should reconsider its role in relation to the Animal Health Board's aerial application of 1080. Mr McKay spoke of his concern regarding the administration costs involved. Mr McKay spoke of his concern with staff being 'lent out' to the Animal Health Board later this year.

Mr McKay thanked Council for the opportunity to speak. The Chairman thanked Mr McKay for his submission.

### **Mr Paul Murray**

Mr Murray spoke to his submission. He advised that he is a tourism operator in the Karamea area. Mr Murray aired his concern with the signage relating to 1080 drops.

He supported Council's Mission Statement but feels that there is a disparity between the Annual Plan and the Mission Statement.

Mr Murray stated that he is not against possum control but believes that Council has a responsibility to address the needs of all the stakeholders in the service of possum control on the

West Coast. He stated that he believes there should be sufficient funds to pay people to trap possums and this could benefit the local economy. Mr Murray stated he is concerned about the negative impact that vector control has on tourism; he stated that the vector control programme is affecting his business. He is not against possum control but he is against the use of 1080.

Cr Chinn asked Mr Murray if there are any private people catching possums in the Karamea area at the moment. Mr Murray confirmed that there is and one of these people is a tenant on Mr Murray's property. He stated that the aerial use of 1080 wipes out this man's business that then impacts on Mr Murray.

The Chairman asked if monitoring activities is about monitoring those who are carrying out the activities in relation to their performance or is it about monitoring the number of possums that have been taken out of the area. Mr Murray confirmed people carrying out the operation need to be monitored, the results need to be monitored and the impact on the environment needs to be monitored and the accountability also. Mr Murray feels that considering the number of possums in the area he feels this does not justify another 1080 drop.

The Chairman thanked Mr Murray for his submission.

### **Mrs Rosie Laszlo**

The Chairman asked Mrs Laszlo where does her submission tie in with the Draft Annual Plan. She stated that her submission relates to performance targets and measures and how it relates to quality assurance and health and safety procedures. She spoke of the resource consent granted to the Animal Health Board for the control of possums in the Mokihinui area where she lives.

Mrs Laszlo stated that possum is a source of meat that she chooses to eat. She feels this is a waste of food in regard with the international food shortage.

Mrs Laszlo spoke of her concerns for the longterm health of her family and the ecosystem. She stated that if 1080 were dropped on to the top of her property it would contaminate her water.

The Chairman explained that the purpose of this hearing is to hear submissions relating to the Annual Plan. He explained to Mrs Laszlo that there are other forums where opinions on 1080 can be voiced. The Chairman explained that there will be a meeting in the Karamea area on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May and Mrs Laszlo can contact the Animal Health Board. C. Ingle advised that the Vector Programme Manager is available for this purpose and he will be visiting the Karamea area on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May with an AHB representative.

Cr Archer explained to Mrs Laszlo what Council looks for in terms of a submission. He explained that Council looks for what the submitter wants Council to change in terms of the Annual Plan. The Chairman thanked Mrs Laszlo for her submission.

### **Mr Peter Laszlo**

The Chairman advised Mr Laszlo that his submission also does not relate to the Annual Plan. Mr Laszlo stated that he is concerned about water quality after the 1080 drop. The Chairman explained to Mr Laszlo that the correct forum for his concerns is the meeting next week with Chris Pullen.

The Chairman thanked Mr Laszlo for his submission.

### **Concerned Residents of Hector (David Bridjer)**

The Chairman also explained to Mr Bridjer that his submission does not relate to the Draft Annual Plan. Mr Bridjer stated that he did not receive a letter sent to him by C. Ingle. The Chairman advised Mr Bridjer of the meeting next week. He apologised on Council's behalf for Mr Bridjer not receiving C. Ingle's letter.

### **Anne Smith**

This submission was taken as read. Mrs Smith did not speak to her submission as C. Ingle had written to her advising her that her submission does not relate to the Annual Plan.

### **Historic Places Trust**

This submission was taken as read.

**Moved** (Scarlett / Archer) That Council receive this written submission for consideration.

*Carried*

**Active West Coast**

This submission was taken as read.

**Moved** (Scarlett / Ewen) That Council receive this written submission for consideration.

*Carried*

The Chairman apologised to residents from Karamea area for not hearing all of their submissions. He stated that some of these submissions were beyond Council's scope of hearing as they do not request any amendment to the Annual Plan. The appropriate forum for discussing these matters is on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May where the Council's Vector Manager will hear the local concerns regarding the Karamea operation.

The Chairman indicated that the submissions would be considered at a workshop following this special meeting and the recommendations presented at the next Council meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

The meeting closed at 11.55 a.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date