

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
KARAMEA RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE KARAMEA FIRE STATION
ON 25 OCTOBER 2011, COMMENCING AT 1.00 PM.

PRESENT

H. Macbeth, R. Barton, M. Macbeth, B. Langford, D. Simkin, R. Lucas, J. Colville, W. Alber, G. Johnston, M. Watt, B. Jones, P. Moynihan, B. Lodge

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
T. Archer (Councillor)
C.Ingle (CEO), W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

R. Sampson, S. Griffin (BDC), Cr Scarlett

H. Macbeth / M. Macbeth - Carried

BUSINESS

T. Archer opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

It was confirmed that all present are members of the Karamea Rating District.

Moved: ***"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 17 October 2010, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."***

B. Langford / B. Jones - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

H. Macbeth stated that it is good to see the list of action points at the end of the minutes. He passed on his compliments to staff relating to the action points, minutes and the council website.

C. Ingle advised that meeting that the fabric sock option for the slip at the top of the Granite Creek catchment that was discussed at last year's meeting is not a practical option. C. Ingle advised that council investigated this and unfortunately there is no engineering option that has practical merit that council is aware of at this point.

H. Macbeth asked about pages 9 and 10 attached to the minutes. Cr Archer explained that these pages are the result of discussions at last year's meeting relating to the process and standing of rating district committees in relation to council. It is an attempt to address the way in which rating district committee's work. Cr Archer advised that this is not technically a constitution, as the Asset Management Plan effectively replaced the constitution. C. Ingle advised that it was intended that this document would fill any gaps between the Asset Management Plan and the Standing Orders that Council use to determine processes at meetings.

FINANCIAL REPORT

W. Moen spoke to this report. He advised that the opening balance at 1 July 2010 was \$120,052.51 and the closing balance at 30 June 2011 was \$117,683.30. He advised that more money was spent than was brought into the account over the past financial year.

R. Barton asked about the interest rate on the money in the rating district account. It was explained that a very good interest rate is obtained and the Corporate Services Manager is very diligent at ensuring all rating districts benefit from the money that they have in reserve. C. Ingle stated that all rating districts are encouraged to have a good amount of money in their accounts in case of emergency works being needed.

Moved: ***"That the financial report for the 2010 / 2011 year be adopted".***
B. Jones / D. Simkin - Carried

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen spoke to this report. He advised that a total of \$26,235.17 worth of work was carried out during the reporting period. W. Moen advised that every three years cross section survey and analysis work is done with the rating district paying 50% of the cost and Council paying the other 50%.

W. Moen advised that as a result of an inspection carried out on the 12th of July with the committee, no major works were apparent but he has allowed for \$10,000 worth of repairs to be done. W. Moen advised that the consultants are recommending the trees be removed from the stopbank as these trees can disturb the structural integrity of the stopbank. W. Moen stated that he has allowed for \$7,500 to remove some of these trees. W. Moen reported that the major issue for this year is the realignment of the stopbank at The Last Resort. W. Moen advised that there are four options for the upgrade of this stopbank to be discussed today.

M. Macbeth asked W. Moen if the cross section survey and analysis is for the whole river. W. Moen confirmed this information is for the whole river and advised he doesn't have this information with him but he will get this report to B. Langford for him to pass onto the committee.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2010 / 2011 financial year be adopted. "***
- 2. That the 2011 / 2012 works proposals be approved, excluding the Last Resort stopbank upgrade."***

M. Macbeth / B. Langford – Carried

It was agreed that the committee and W. Moen would work together to decide which trees would be removed from the stopbank on the Karamea River.

UPGRADE OF STOPBANK AT THE LAST RESORT

Cr Archer drew attention to the documents relating to the stopbank upgrade including the letter to the committee spokesperson, the notes about the four options for the upgrade, drawings from Riley Consultants Ltd and diagrams. W. Moen explained the four options as follows:

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------|
| a) | Option 1 – Strengthen existing stopbank in current location | \$ 42,500 |
| b) | Option 2 – Strengthen and raise existing stopbank by 0.50m | \$ 74,000 |
| c) | Option 3 – Realign and construct new stopbank | \$ 72,500 |
| d) | Option 4 – Realign, construct and raise new stopbank by 0.50m | \$ 89,000 |

W. Moen advised that should option 4 be agreed to then there would need to be a small culvert put in to drain any water that accumulates in the back. He advised this has not been allowed for and may cost \$10,000, as it would need to be floodgated. W. Moen advised that he recommends that the compacted gravel buttress is not put in as this could be done later if required. W. Moen stated that the \$89,000 does not include the buttress. C. Ingle asked if the pricing is on the conservative side and could it come in cheaper. W. Moen advised that the main factor influencing the price would be the supply of gravel and if it can be sourced locally then this will make a difference. W. Moen advised that whatever option that is agreed upon it would be tendered out and Council always looks for the best value for ratepayers.

P. Moynihan stated that considering the bank hasn't been breached in 80 years he does not see the purpose in doing any work on it, even the cheapest option of adding half a metre to a section. He stated that if there is a flood that is half a metre higher and it breaches the rest of the bank what use is 400 metres of bank that hasn't been breached. Cr Archer quoted Graham Smart from NIWA who said the Karamea residents have been lulled into a false sense of security and in Mr Smart's view the bank could go at anytime at all and it is precarious. Cr Archer stated that Mr Smart advised that the narrow alignment and the amount of trees that are growing on the stopbank could be scoured out in a decent flood. Cr Archer advised that Mr Smart was quite alarmed by the state of the stopbank. C. Ingle stated that the modelling done by Mr Smart revealed two weak points in the wall, one of them is at The Last Resort and the other one is upstream from the bridge. C. Ingle advised that Mr Smart told him on the phone that the rating district could not go wrong by going ahead with the upgrade at The Last Resort as this is the number one priority and is the most vulnerable part of the stopbank. C. Ingle stated that if the rating district wanted to do a gradual upgrade of the stopbank then The Last Resort would be the place to start at. C. Ingle advised that the rating district has a healthy balance in its account at the moment and they need to decide if this is what they want to spend their money on.

M. Watts stated that height of the water must be governed by the outlet of the river. C. Ingle said that this is another thing that G. Smart's report has looked into and one of the recommendations in his report is to look at the river mouth and to come up with some options for this area. Further discussion took place on G. Smart's most recent report. C. Ingle advised that he is keen for G. Smart to visit Karamea again to explain his report further. Discussion took place on the impact that farm work has had on the floodbank. C. Ingle advised that Council may decide to develop a bylaw that protects flood protection assets under the Local Government Act. Cr Archer stated that it is important that works are included in the asset management plan so that council can protect them. B. Jones stated that a bylaw would give council the power to actually do something about damage to the stopbank when trees are planted on it or other activities affect the integrity to the stopbank. Cr Archer advised that most bylaws only provide a regulatory tool to reflect compliance with the bylaw.

Moved: *"That option four is taken to realign the stopbank at The Last Resort and raise the stopbank by 0.50m."*

B. Langford / D. Simkin

P. Moynihan stated that floodwater hasn't come over the bank in 80 years and he feels that this is a waste of money. M. Macbeth stated that it has been pointed out by experts that the stopbank has weak spots and she feels the rating district should be proactive on this. R. Barton stated there could be insurance ramifications if nothing is done and there is an obligation to do something about this risk. Cr Archer agreed with these comments and stated that if nothing is done and you know a hazard exists then insurance companies tend to shy away from this. Cr Archer explained how the LAPP fund works to the meeting, he advised that following the Christchurch earthquakes council has now pulled out of this and has their own Contingency Fund and this protects all council assets. C.

Ingle advised that the Contingency Fund is only for big events. He stated that council has an application in for the December 2010 flood event as it was felt that this was a big enough event to warrant this. C. Ingle clarified that the Karamea stopbank is currently insured but the insurance does not cover repairs and maintenance.

W. Moen explained that he would get prices for this job and report back to the committee prior to engaging contractors. W. Moen stated that he is having trouble finding a gravel source close to this area and he encouraged the meeting to let him know of any handy sites. C. Ingle advised that if the price comes out at more than \$90,000 following the tender process then it would come back to the committee for final approval.

Cr Archer put the motion. P. Moynihan was against this motion. The motion was carried.

M. Macbeth asked what would happen with the existing stopbank once the new one is in place. It was agreed that the existing stopbank would stay in place in the meantime.

RATES 2012 / 2013

Cr Archer advised the meeting to bear in mind the resolution to upgrade the stopbank when striking the rate.

W. Moen advised that with the proposed works, with the exception of the Last Resort upgrade, and the rate of \$30,000 previously struck for the 2011 / 2012 year the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2012 / 2013 financial year is likely to be \$140,000. W. Moen advised that if the rating district is considering taking \$90,000 out of the account they should be planning to put some back in. B. Jones asked if this amount needed to be put back in all at once or over a number of years. W. Moen stated that this decision is up to the rating district as it is their risk. W. Moen suggested upping the rate strike to \$50,000 to \$60,000 over the next couple of years to build the account up again. It was noted that there are 450 ratepayers in the Karamea rating district. H. Macbeth stated that there could be more work within the rating district over the next couple years and he feels it would be sensible to increase the rate strike for next year so that the account recovers reasonably quickly. He also feels that in view of G. Smart's report it is important to increase the rate strike.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the rate strike for the 2012 / 2013 financial Year is \$50,000 (GST Excl)."

H. Macbeth / R. Barton – Carried

C. Ingle advised that the upgrade only covers 300 – 400 metres. He stated that this does not cover quite the extent of what the modeling shows as the low point and therefore there may be further work may be needed in this general area either downstream or slightly upstream. C. Ingle advised it is important to be realistic about what works are affordable and for the rating district to do things as they can afford to. C. Ingle suggested that should a low tender price come in for the upgrade then more work could be done up to a \$90,000 limit. He advised that this happened when the Greymouth floodwall was upgraded.

Moved: ***"That should a low tender price be obtained for the upgrade of the Stopbank at The Last Resort, any money left over is spent on topping up neighbouring low points on the stopbank".***

H. Macbeth / B. Langford - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Archer read out the names of the current committee. It was agreed that the existing committee would be reappointed.

Moved: ***"That the present committee
Darryl Simkin
Brian Jones
Margaret Macbeth
Roger Barton
Bevan Langford
be retained as the committee for the 2011 / 2012 financial year."***
H. Macbeth / B. Langford - Carried

Moved: ***"That B. Langford be elected as the spokesperson for the 2011 /
2012 financial year."***
B. Jones / M. Macbeth - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Karamea NIWA Report

C. Ingle advised that he understands that the bullet points outlined in the executive summary are roughly in the order of significance or importance in terms of what will give the best value for the rating district to spend its money on. He noted the repair and raising of the stopbank at The Last Resort and the removal of trees on the stopbank as being high on that list. C. Ingle suggested that a five year plan could be worked out how best to make changes to manage the overflow and keep floodwaters away from houses. C. Ingle stated that this is a very good report and the best Council has ever received from Envirolink Funding. It was agreed that a meeting with G. Smart present would be arranged within the next six months. R. Lucas offered to load the report on the local website.

H. Macbeth raised the matter of the possibility of evacuation plans in the Karamea area being looked at as this matter came out in the report. W. Moen advised that this could be followed up with Buller District Council Civil Defence staff. C. Ingle stated the civil defence part of the report is separate to the issues raised in the river engineering section of the report.

Website

H. Macbeth stated that he is pleased with the amount of information available on the council website. He stated that there is no map of the assets within the Karamea rating district. H. Macbeth said he was pleased to see that a new rain gauge has been installed at the Garibaldi site on the Karamea River.

H. Macbeth asked if a notice advising the annual meeting of the rating district could be put on the Karamea website. C. Ingle agreed that this could be done.

Karamea Rating District Meeting Procedures and Information Sheet

Cr Archer suggested that a name for the above be thought about. H. Macbeth suggested that this document is put into the Asset Management Plan for the Karamea Rating District. C. Ingle advised that all council meetings are bound by Standing Orders. He advised this document contains all the rules relating to meeting procedures. C. Ingle advised that all councils have to adopt Standing Orders at their triennial meeting. He advised that rating

district meetings are based on these same procedures but there are also other things that rating districts have adopted over time, for example if a rating district is largely a maintenance or a capital scheme. C. Ingle stated that this document is not quite an asset management plan but there is no reason why it cannot be included in the asset management plan, as everything is then in the one place. Cr Archer advised that very important matters are included in these asset management plans. It was noted that this is basically the terms of reference but it was agreed that the document will be included in the asset management plan and be known as the Karamea Rating District Meeting Procedures and Information Sheet.

D. Simkin asked for a map of the stopbanks and groynes within the rating district. W. Moen commented that this needs updating but he would provide an updated version to the Spokesperson to pass onto the committee.

R. Barton asked if it would be possible to send him an aerial photograph of the mouth of the Karamea River. W. Moen agreed to this request.

Discussion took place regarding illegal digger activity in rivers. It was agreed that people are to let B. Langford know if there are concerns so that he can ascertain whether or not a Council Enforcement Officer needs to visit the area. Cr Archer advised the meeting that ratepayers are the eyes and ears for council and not to hesitate to contact council if there are any concerns.

T. Archer thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.45 p.m.

Action Points

- W. Moen to get cross-section information to B. Langford for distribution to committee.
- W. Moen and rating district committee to work together to decide which trees will be removed from the stopbank on the Karamea River.
- C. Ingle to arrange a meeting with G. Smart to develop an action plan, within the next six months.
- C. Ingle to send disc of NIWA report to R. Lucas so it can be placed on the local website.
- T. Jellyman send notice of Annual Meeting to R. Lucas so it can be placed on the Karamea website and send agenda to H. Macbeth electronically.
- C. Ingle to put the Karamea Rating District Meeting Procedures and Information Sheet into the Asset Management Plan.
- W. Moen to provide updated map of stopbanks and groynes to rating district spokesperson.
- W. Moen – send aerial photograph of Karamea River mouth to R. Barton.