

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PUNAKAIKI RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE PUNAKAIKI TAVERN ON 20 OCTOBER 2011, COMMENCING AT 7.08 PM.

PRESENT

S. Casey, M. Keating, F. Keating, S. Griffin (Buller District Council), G. Beynon, I. Ryder, A. Beynon, L. Totzauer, J. Lightfoot, C. King, G. Howard, A. Palmer,

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
T. Archer (Councillors)
M. Meehan, W. Moen, T Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

S. Duncan

A. Beynon / F. Keating - Carried

BUSINESS

T. Archer opened the meeting and welcomed those present to the meeting. He introduced himself and the Council staff. He asked if all present are members of the Punakaiki Rating District. This was confirmed.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 14 September 2010, be taken as read."*

J. Lightfoot / I. Ryder - Carried

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 14 September 2010, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

I. Ryder / A. Beynon - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

It was asked if the 400 tonne of rock has been placed or has it just been allowed for. W. Moen confirmed that this rock has been placed. A speaker asked if higher quality rock could be sourced. W. Moen advised that this rock was sourced from MBD's quarry at Rapahoe. He advised that the rock from Kiwi Quarry is of better quality but this quarry is at Stillwater and therefore cartage is more expensive as it is twice as far away as Rapahoe. Discussion took place on the cost of the rock when the seawall's was first constructed. W. Moen advised that this rock cost almost nothing. He stated that the seawall was built for around \$360,000 as the rating district wanted the cheapest possible job done. W. Moen stated that if a higher quality rock had of been used the cost would have almost doubled. G. Beynon stated that the original rock was from a mine site and was free. G. Beynon stated that the original price of the seawall was \$600,000 and everyone turned this down. He advised it was supposed to be a metre higher than it is and it was agreed to lower it down by a metre and use cheaper rock to keep the price down. G. Beynon stated if the seawall hadn't have been put in the houses at the front would not be there now. Cr Archer commented that if small blowouts are repaired with higher quality rock, which costs more, then a small part of the wall will be a better quality wall but the remainder of the wall is still the same original quality. Cr Archer stated that the choice is the rating districts as to what quality of rock they want. A speaker asked if it would be feasible to concrete the top of the rock on the seawall. W. Moen stated that this would be very expensive and possibly in the hundreds of thousands. He advised that this has never been done anywhere else on the West Coast. W. Moen stated that he stands by this wall and if the quality of

rock is that bad then how come the wall is still standing after ten years and very little has been spent on the upkeep of the wall.

FINANCIAL REPORT

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2011.

W. Moen advised that the balance in the loan account as at 30 June 2011 of \$1,938.79. He advised that the maturity date of this loan is November 2015.

W. Moen drew attention to the expenses and revenue in the maintenance account. He advised that the opening balance as at 1 July 2010 was \$41,443.08 and the closing balance in this account as at 30 June 2011 is \$39,142.32.

A question was asked of the \$2,000 for staff time. W. Moen responded that this is for his time attending rating district meetings and his time for the drawing up of contract documents for work here and the supervision of these works.

Moved: ***"That the financial report for the loan account for the 2010 / 2011 year be adopted".***

I. Ryder / J. Lightfoot - Carried

Moved: ***"That the financial report for the maintenance account for the 2010 / 2011 year be adopted".***

F. Keating / L/ Totzauer - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising relating to the financial report.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen clarified a matter that was discussed in the financial report. He advised that when a rock structure is built there are two components, large rock, which is the bulk of the job and smaller rock which is placed in the gaps between big rocks to lock them together. Small rock is called rubble.

W. Moen presented the 2010 / 2011 works report. He advised that the total cost of works was \$16,505.

W. Moen reported that as a result of the inspection that he carried out on the 12th of July 2011 no major areas of concern were identified. W. Moen advised that although there are no anticipated repair works to be done he always allows a contingency fund to allow for any works between now and the next financial year that might be needed. He advised that he has allowed \$12,000 for unforeseen maintenance and this probably would not be used.

M. Keating asked W. Moen why he does his inspection in July, he feels this should be done a fortnight ago, as it is now October. M. Meehan responded that council has 23 rating districts and W. Moen has to get around all of them. M. Meehan advised that the last two weeks have been taken up with rating district meetings and previous to this big jobs in Franz Josef and Whataroa have taken up W. Moen's time. W. Moen advised that he always checks on this rating district whenever he is driving past to visit rating districts further north such as Karamea.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2010 / 2011 financial year be adopted.***
- 2. That the 2011 / 2012 works proposals be approved.***

I. Ryder / G. Beynon – Carried

RATES 2012 / 2013

W. Moen advised that the reason he is suggesting a \$15,000 rate strike is because in the last financial year a rate of \$15,000 was struck. He advised that this current year the rate strike was reduced to \$10,000 and the problem is that \$16,000 was spent. W. Moen advised that it wouldn't

take long if a smaller rate is being collected and spending more than the rate for the balance to go down. W. Moen advised that a \$15,000 rate strike would allow the account to build. It was noted that if nothing were spent then the account would build up. W. Moen stated that he always encourages rating districts to build up their accounts so that if there is a major event they don't have to raise a loan or write out personal cheques to cover the costs of repair works.

Cr Archer explained to the meeting that the outcome of this meeting on the rate strike is a recommendation to council and the council will determine what the rate strike is. M. Keating asked if the rating district decision on the rate strike is a binding decision. Cr Archer advised that it is a binding decision of this meeting but does not affect the outcome because the rating district can't strike a rate only the council can. Cr Archer stated that during his term on council there have been instances when a recommendation from the rating committee to do something has been overturned by council.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the rate strike for the 2012 / 2013 financial Year is \$15,000 (GST Excl)."

J. Lightfoot / I. Ryder

M. Keating moved an amendment to the motion. "That the rate strike for the 2012 / 2013 financial Year is \$10,000 (GST Excl)." The amendment lapsed due to lack of a seconder.

Cr Archer put the original motion. This was carried. M. Keating was against this motion.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Archer read out the names of those on the committee and advised that G. Beynon was elected as the spokesperson. Cr Archer called for nominations for the committee. G. Beynon nominated M. Keating.

It was noted that M. Wilkins is not present. F. Keating asked to be removed from the committee

Moved: ***"That the committee for 2011 / 2012 consist of G. Beynon, M. Wilkins, S. Casey, M. Keating, A. Beynon, I. Ryder, L. Totzauer and J. Lightfoot".***

I. Ryder / G. Lightfoot – Carried

J. Lightfoot be elected as Chairperson for the 2011 / 2012 financial year."

G. Beynon / I. Ryder – Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

W. Moen drew attention to cross section data analysis at the bottom of his report. He advised that cross sections are done every year and between March 2010 and April 2011 the indications were that from the south end to Owen Street (camping ground) a general accretion (build up) is trending in this area with an overall build up of 24,500 m³ of material. W. Moen advised that going north from Owen Street to the Pororari River there was a general erosion trend with an overall loss of 115,300 m³ of material. W. Moen advised that simply this means there is a build up in the area south of Owen Street and general erosion in front of the camping ground area. W. Moen advised that this information was as of the time of the survey and could have changed by now. He advised that these cross section are part of a requirement for the resource consent. I. Ryder confirmed that this is a DoC requirement. A comment was made that this data is meaningless and should the rating district bother with the cost of this. W. Moen advised that the rating district is only paying half of the cost as the general ratepayer is paying the rest. W. Moen advised it is sensible to keep doing the cross section because if there was a major event then this information is helpful. I. Ryder stated that

anything coming from the south is taking sand away and anything from the north brings it back. I. Ryder stated this is what has been happening for the last 14 years but it is worse now at the camping ground because the energy has been shifted to this area and it is unprotected. Cr Archer asked if the surveys over the years would show this trend. I. Ryder stated that weather conditions are changing on the West Coast. M. Meehan advised that this is a consent condition but over time there is a trend then a variation to the consent cancelling the monitoring condition could be made to council. W. Moen stated that longterm there are going to be problems in the camping ground area. He advised that it was expensive to put rockwork in place right up to the Pororari Bridge. W. Moen advised that at some stage a decision would need to be made on future works in this area. G. Beynon asked how much these works could cost. W. Moen responded that it could be as much as \$600,000 to \$700,000. M. Keating asked if the sea came through at the camping ground would the rating district be obliged to pay for this work. W. Moen advised that it would be up to the rating district to decide what they want to do about this. A. Beynon asked if the lease for the camping ground is sold who is then responsible for works in this area. Cr Archer stated that it would depend on the conditions of the lease but it is usually the responsibility of the landowner. S. Griffin advised that DoC owns this land and Buller District Council owns the building. S. Griffin stated that DoC is not interested in protecting this area, as they believe erosion is a natural process and they are happy for natural process to take its course. S. Griffin advised that if erosion is starting to threaten houses then there might be a bit more thrust to extend the wall. It was noted that the sewage system is Buller District Council's responsibility and this would not be that costly to relocate.

A. Palmer stated that he feels that only good quality rock should be used for repair works from now on. I. Ryder stated that there are only a limited number of ratepayers to pay for rock. A. Palmer stated that it would be better to repair less of the wall with better rock each year than throwing money into the sea. Further discussion took place on rock quality. F. Keating asked what is the rock on the road. W. Moen confirmed that this rock is the original rock from the seawall that is crumbling and breaking down in the sun. M. Meehan stated that two prices for rock could be obtained when there are proposed works needed if this is the wish of the rating district. Cr Archer reminded the meeting of the previous decisions that have been made at rating district meetings with regard to proposed works. Cr Archer advised that the process is for W. Moen to contact the rating district's spokesperson who then discusses the proposed works with the committee and if any work required is to going to exceed the initial budget then the committee makes a decision. W. Moen stated that works are up to \$15,000 and anything above this comes back to the committee. It was agreed that two prices would be prepared with one price for higher quality rock and a price for similar priced rock that has been used to date. W. Moen asked that if anyone present knows of a good rock source that is handy if they could please let him know.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8 p.m.

Action Point:

- M. Meehan to approach DoC to ascertain if they are prepared to agree to rock being taken from the National Park.