

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2012, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.40 A.M.

#### PRESENT:

B. Chinn (Chairman), A. Robb, T. Archer, D. Davidson, A. Birchfield, I Cummings

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), J. Adams (Consents & Compliance Manager), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

#### 1. APOLOGIES:

**Moved** (Archer / Birchfield) *that the apology from Cr Scarlett be accepted.*

*Carried*

#### 2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

#### 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Moved** (Birchfield / Cummings) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 9 October 2012, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

#### REPORTS:

##### 4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report advising the annual round of liaison meetings with the rating districts were held during October. He advised that the minutes from these meetings would be coming to the December meeting along with a recommending report about rate setting for next year. M. Meehan reported that very good tender prices are being received at the moment for works in the rating districts with quite a few tenders for each job being received. M. Meehan reported that good stockpiles of rock are available in the Kiwi, Camelback and Whataroa quarries and supply has now caught up with demand following the recent floods. Cr Chinn asked if the rock in the Wanganui quarry is coming off the gold claim. M. Meehan confirmed this. Cr Chinn stated that the difference in the tender price for jobs in the Whataroa and Wanganui rating districts is virtually \$10,000 cheaper for the same amount of rock for the Wanganui job. He stated that this is because the rock is from the gold claim at Ianthe instead of the rock having to come from Whataroa. He stated this is a win win situation for everybody. M. Meehan advised that the sale of the Wanganui Quarry is in its final stages. M. Meehan advised that the Council Seal was used for the transfer of the mining licence to Ferguson Brothers Ltd.

C. Ingle advised that the Government is funding some fencing and planting work around Lake Brunner. He advised that this work is being overseen by Council and the Council Seal was used for a transaction also.

**Moved** (Robb / Birchfield) *that this report be received.*

*Carried*

## 4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and advised that this is the quarterly financial report to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. He reported that the surplus is \$634,000 compared to the budgeted surplus of \$234,000. R. Mallinson advised that the Investment Portfolio is performing strongly with net budget variances of \$86,000. R. Mallinson reported that as at the end of October a total of \$95,000 worth of funding under the Warm West Coast Voluntary Targeted Rate Scheme went to 23 ratepayers in the region. R. Mallinson stated that after a reasonably slow take off the scheme seems to be going well. Cr Chinn asked R. Mallinson if he felt that the improvement in the performance of the investment portfolio is as a result of changing fund managers or is it market related. R. Mallinson responded that the markets have generally improved and this has pulled up our portfolio. He stated that it is too early to tell how Westpac will perform as council has only just finished transferring the funds over.

**Moved** (Archer / Robb) *that this report be received.*

*Carried*

## 5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle reported that he attended the Mayors and Chairs forum earlier in October. He also attended rating district meetings. C. Ingle reported that he attended the Chief Executive's Environmental Forum's in Wellington during the reporting period. He stated that some government officials in Wellington seem to be struggling a little bit with all the different things going on and changes within government departments at the moment. C. Ingle stated that he hosted a very good meeting with the Civil Defence Controllers recently. He advised he would be continuing with these meetings on a quarterly basis.

C. Ingle reported that he chaired the Envirolink Governance Group meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November, which was held in Wellington. He reported that government officials that turned up to talk to this meeting did not seem to be on the ball and in particular the representatives from NIWA who told the meeting that they were going to pull their monitoring sites across New Zealand. C. Ingle stated that he heard a different story to this from MfE officials saying that the NIWA sites are staying. C. Ingle stated that this matter should become clearer over the next month or two.

C. Ingle advised that Cr Scarlett asked him to report on the recent LGNZ Zone 5 meeting. C. Ingle reported that Minister David Carter attended this meeting and he explained to the Mayors and Chairs of the South Island who were present that the changes to the Local Government Act fell over at Select Committee process because the Select Committee had equal numbers of government MP's versus opposition MP's and therefore they couldn't agree on anything and they got to a stalemate. C. Ingle advised that Minister Carter revealed that changes would instead be made via a supplementary order process in Parliament where they do have the majority and will be able to get this through.

C. Ingle advised that people from the Productivity Commission also spoke at the Zone 5 meeting. He stated that their focus seemed to be on mainly on the district councils rather than regional councils but they did want to look at the efficiency and effectiveness of regulatory services across New Zealand and whether they should be sitting with councils or other agencies at a local, regional or national level. C. Ingle advised that a draft report is due before Christmas then further submissions would be invited before March and the final report should be to hand in May.

C. Ingle reported that Angela Foulkes from the Remuneration Authority also attended Zone 5. He stated that the Remuneration Authority is also going through a full review process with a discussion document expected shortly. C. Ingle advised that they are doing job sizing, how councillors are paid and they are going to get rid of the pool approach opting instead for a salary approach. He advised these changes will not be made until after the 2013 Local Body Elections and the will be based on a council's size, based on an index of the population plus turnover of the council's budget. C. Ingle stated that this will be reviewed three yearly and Councillors will be sent a survey to ascertain how many hours they actually work in the job. C. Ingle reported that the South Island Strategic Alliance (SISA) have decided to focus on a small number of things with one being the freight and the roading network for the South Island and the other is drinking water standards.

It was noted that C. Ingle also attended the Reefton Airshed meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October.

**Moved** (Archer / Robb) *that this report be received.*

*Carried*

**6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)**

There was no Chairman's report due to Cr Scarlett's apology.

**7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.55 a.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date