

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE MOKIHINUI RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE MOKIHINUI COMMUNITY HALL
ON 18 OCTOBER 2012, COMMENCING AT 4.30 PM

PRESENT

M. Jary, G. McLean, B. Gardiner, M. Hawes, T. Timbs, B. Jary, R. Scott, J. McTaggart, R. Bennett, T. Heiler, J. Pretty, M. Smith, K. Carmine, R. Austin, P & C. Batchelor, J. Climo, C. Pretty, B. Morgan, M. Coleman, S. Olliver,

IN ATTENDANCE

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

APOLOGIES

Cr Scarlett, M & A. Hawes, B. Climo

C. Batchelor / J. Pretty - Carried

BUSINESS

Cr Archer opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff. Cr Archer stated that because there is such a large gathering here today, he is uncertain if everyone present are actually ratepayers are able to speak and vote.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 25 October 2011, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

B. Morgan / M. Hawes – Carried

MATTERS ARISING

Action Points from last year's meeting were updated. M. Smith stated that she does not want the gorse sprayed on the island as this gorse gives protection from the wind. Cr Archer advised M. Smith to liaise with the Domain Board regarding this matter.

J. Climo asked why does the rating district pay GST on their rates. C. Ingle advised that this is the law. W. Moen explained to a speaker how a rating district works financially. It was agreed that this rate was imposed on the community by themselves as they had expressed a wish to form a rating district.

FINANCIAL REPORT

W. Moen spoke to this report. He advised that the opening balance at the beginning of July 2011 was \$22,129.99 and the closing balance to 30 June 2012 is \$14,841.29. W. Moen advised that total expenses were \$18,894.75 of which \$12,927.50 was contractor's costs. W. Moen stated that staff time does seem high compared to last year but the bulk of the costs were for the finalisation of the Asset Management Plan and the time spent on getting the contract out for the repair works. W. Moen advised that the resource consent is for maintaining the sacrificial sea bund and the rockwork on the riverfront. Cr Archer advised that he would assume this consent would be for 35 years(it is) and at the end of the 35 years most consent holders apply for an extension to that consent so that you don't have to go through the same process over again.

Discussion took place on the asset management plan. C. Ingle advised that the asset management plan is in place to manage the council assets and to ensure that the asset is properly maintained. He advised that having an asset management plan adds a bit more discipline to the process. Cr Archer stated that there is no requirement to establish an asset management plan where there are no defined assets. Cr Archer advised that the Local Government Act and the Rating Act are what drives the development of asset management plans and special rating districts. Cr Archer advised that because the community has decided to establish a special rating district, part of the process is the need to identify the assets, value them and develop an asset management plan and this is where the Mokihinui rating district is at now.

Cr Archer drew the meeting's attention to the cost breakdown in the works report and advised that these figures are from the financial report.

Moved: *"That the financial report for the 2011 / 2012 year be adopted".*

B. Morgan / C. Batchelor – Carried

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen spoke to this report. He advised that \$12,927.50 worth of works was carried out during the 2011 / 2012 financial year from the 1st of July 2011 until the 30th of June 2012. W. Moen advised that S.M. Lowe Contracting Ltd carried out this work which involved around 60 metres of the downstream section of the stopbank and used approximately 370 tonnes of rock at \$26,000 per tonne.

W. Moen reported that an inspection was carried out in July 2012 and no maintenance works were identified but he recommends that \$5,000 be allowed for unforeseen maintenance for the remainder of the year up until June 2013.

W. Moen advised that he has spoken to Buller District Council regarding the blocked culvert within the rating district and they have indicated that they will check on this. J. Climo stated that the rating district does not want to spend money on this.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2011 / 2012 financial year be adopted.*
- 2. That the 2012 / 2013 works proposals be approved.*

B. Morgan / M. Smith – Carried

RATES 2013 / 2014

W. Moen advised that with the proposed works of \$5,000 and the rate of \$11,467 previously struck for the 2012 / 2013 year the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2013 / 2014 year is likely to be \$22,000 GST Excl. It is recommended that the same rate be struck as last year. C. Ingle advised that the slight increase in individual rates is because of the recent increase in GST. W. Moen stated that all financial figures in the reports are exclusive of GST.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the rate strike for the 2013 / 2014 financial Year is \$11,467 (GST Excl) as per the agreed uniform charge." 43 units @ \$300 GST Incl

R. Bennett / G. McLean – Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Archer asked for nominations for the committee. He advised that at last year's meeting the existing committee was re-elected. Cr Archer noted that Mr Morgan should have been included in the committee at last year's meeting. B. Morgan stated that there are some pretty knowledgeable people present and he would like to see this knowledge used. B. Morgan stated that for this reason he would like to step down as spokesperson but remain on the committee.

B. Morgan nominated G. McLean, T. Heiler and K. Carmine and retaining B. Morgan. J. Climo nominated the rest of the previous year's committee, M & A. Hawes, M. Hawes, B. Mumm and B. Climo. Another speaker nominated J. Climo. Cr Archer advised that there are 10 nominees. B. Morgan explained the function of the committee which is basically to keep an eye on the works within the rating district and advise the Council Engineer of any damage. A speaker moved that the committee is a maximum of five people. J. Climo and M. Smith are against this motion as they feel that there are a lot of absentee landowners and there is not enough local knowledge on this. M. Smith stated that three of the committee live outside of the area. It was noted that some people who have been nominated are not actually present. It was agreed that those who are not present would not be appointed onto the committee. The motion was rescinded and amendment was moved that six people be nominated onto the committee.

Moved: *"That the committee consists of six people, Joan Climo, Mick Hawes, Brian Morgan, Graham McLean, Terry Heiler and Kerry Carmine for the 2012 / 2013 financial year."*

B. Morgan / C. Batchelor - Carried

(It was subsequently revealed the Terry Heiler does not pay into the Mokihinui Rating District therefore he is not able to be on the rating district committee. Mr Heiler has been informed of this).

Mr McLean and Mr Carmine were nominated to be spokesperson. Mr Carmine declined the nomination.

Moved: *"That Graham McLean be elected as Spokesperson for the rating district committee for the 2012 / 2013 financial year."*

C. Batchelor / K. Carmine - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussion took place about the soak pit. It was agreed that this is a matter for the Buller District Council to address. A speaker stated that they feel this area should be fenced. Cr Archer advised that this should be followed up with the district council. Cr Archer advised that if this was area was intended for swimming purposes then fencing would be required. M. Smith stated that this should be fenced and there should be a sign put up in this area as it is dangerous. Cr Archer stated that he understands the concern. Cr Archer stated that if it is a Buller District Council sump then they need to be contacted about this matter. It was agreed that the rating district would contact Buller District Council about this matter.

Cr Archer thanked the meeting for their attendance.

A speaker stated that the gorse is not a good thing. It was felt that the gorse could be a fire risk. Some people do like the gorse because it provides shelter from the big waves. Cr Archer stated that because there are so many different views on this it would be good for the community to decide what they would like to do about this.

K. Carmine raised the matter of insurance and if the seawall is insured. C. Ingle advised that council now has some self-insurance but it only applies to major disasters. C. Ingle advised that if there was a district wide disaster or event a claim could be lodged with Civil Defence. C. Ingle advised that council tried to claim on damage caused in the December 2010 floods but they are still waiting to hear about this. Cr Archer explained that the LAPP Fund (Local Authority Protection Plan) increased their premiums to such an exorbitant rate that many councils around the country pulled out. He advised that the West Coast Regional Council took a sum of money from its investments and put it in a special fund and includes a top up each year for the purpose of self insurance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.35 p.m.

Action Point

- W. Moen to provide a breakdown of staff time to the Spokesperson.
- W. Moen to check expiry date of resource consent and send a copy to the Spokesperson.
- W. Moen check status of Meridian consent and report back to the Spokesperson.
- C. Ingle to check GST figures for the rate strike and the GST with R. Mallinson.