

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHSIDE HOKITIKA RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE ST JOHNS ROOMS, STAFFORD STREET, HOKITIKA ON 15 OCTOBER 2012, COMMENCING AT 7.42 PM.

PRESENT

S. Gordon, H. Hamilton, N. Gallop, R. Montagu, J & K. Howell

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
D. Davidson (Councillor).
B. Chinn (Councillor)
W. Moen, C. Ingle, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

W. Montagu

K. Howell / S. Gordon - Carried

BUSINESS

Cr Davidson opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 17 October 2011, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

H. Hamilton / S. Gordon - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

H. Hamilton drew attention to the last line under the rate strike in last year's minutes, which read "H. Hamilton stated that he is happy to pay for any work as required". He meant his share of costs for work on his property.

FINANCIAL REPORT

W. Moen spoke to the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2012. He reported that the opening balance as of 1 July 2011 was \$618.84. Outgoings for the year were \$409.75 and only 7.23 came into the account. The closing balance is \$216.32.

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

S. Gordon / H. Hamilton - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen advised that there were no works carried out between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012. W. Moen reported that undertook an inspection on the 17th of August and no immediate works were identified but he advised that it would be prudent to allow \$5,000 for unforeseen works. W. Moen

advised that should any works be required then the cost would be shared 50/50 between NZTA and the rating district.

RECOMMENDATION

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

H. Hamilton / S. Gordon – Carried

RATES 2013 / 2014

W. Moen recommended to the meeting that they strike a rate of \$5,000. He warned the meeting that if works are required, should the river change direction; there is very little money in the account to do urgent repairs. He stated that should anything go wrong then it is likely that ratepayers will need to write out personal cheques to cover the costs of work. W. Moen stated that the rating district does have the advantage of getting the 50% share from NZTA. W. Moen stated that the balance in the account at the beginning of the 2013 / 2014 financial year is likely to be \$225. W. Moen stated that he has seen rating districts run close to the line and then be caught out. W. Moen therefore recommends a rate strike of \$5,000 for the 2013 / 2014 financial year.

W. Moen reminded the meeting that the rate strike is a recommendation to council and that council can overrule any decision that is made at this meeting. K. Howell stated that she and her husband are new to the area and she would like the information on the different rates and the different rating contributions. W. Moen agreed to send this information along with a copy of the Asset Management Plan.

H. Hamilton moved that the rate strike be zero for 2013 / 14.

RECOMMENDATION

“That the rate strike for the 2013 / 2014 financial Year is Nil.

H. Hamilton / S. Gordon – Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

H. Hamilton is currently the spokesperson. It was noted that all members of the rating district are members of the committee. It was agreed that the status quo would remain.

Moved: *“That H. Hamilton be re-elected as the spokesperson for the 2012 / 2013 financial year and that all members of the Rating District be members of the Committee.”*

S. Gordon / R. Montagu - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

R. Montagu stated that when the rating district was first set up the area east of Warren's section was included. It was noted that there have been changes over the years. Discussion took place on reviewing the rating district boundaries, as there was a concern that the Phelps's may not be paying in to the rating district. C. Ingle stated that he is reluctant to spend time on this as the rating district has just put a zero rate in place and there is not going to be any money to spend investigating administrative boundaries. R. Montagu stated that there is money from this year's rate strike and NZTA's contribution so there is money in the account at the moment. W. Moen advised that when the river moves back to the south side there would be more than \$5,000 worth of damage. He stated it is likely to be \$50,000 - \$60,000 worth of works required and people will have to pay for this work themselves. C. Ingle advised that any type of work, administration or Southside Hokitika Rating District

rockwork has to be paid for; as this is a user pays system. C. Ingle stated he is not saying that it is not a good idea to have the administrative boundaries reviewed but there needs to be money in the account to pay for this. C. Ingle advised the meeting that the Asset Management Plan for the Southside rating district is on the Council website (www.wcrc.govt.nz) and there is also a pdf map showing the boundaries of each of the classification zones of the rating district.

S. Gordon stated that the rate strike is always a contentious issue. He stated that when the rating district started the ratepayers paid in over \$130,000 and since then their tact has been to keep the balance low. W. Moen stated he likes all rating districts to have a "fighting fund" so that if they are hit with damage they have the money to pay for it. C. Ingle stated that it would be useful to have reasonable amount of money in the account perhaps \$2,000 as a "target balance" and not to let it get below this amount. C. Ingle stated that council does not like any rating district to have a negative balance and it would be helpful if the rating district decided how much money they would like to have in their account. C. Ingle encouraged the meeting to think about this option. R. Montagu stated that the main problem is that this is a very small rating district and he feels there is no need to have vast sums of money sitting in the council's bank account.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.08 pm.

Action Points

- W. Moen to send rating classification information and Asset Management Plan to K. Howell.
- T. Jellyman to check that the Phelps's are paying into the rating district.