

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
WANGANUI RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE HARI HARI RESTROOMS
ON 10 OCTOBER 2012, COMMENCING AT 9.32 AM.

PRESENT

A. Campbell, J. Stewart, R. Hodgkinson, B. Thomson, B. McGrath, D. Millar, M. Aynsley, N. Martini, D. Hoddinott, A. Harris

IN ATTENDANCE

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

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

BUSINESS

Cr Chinn 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 12 October 2011, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

A. Campbell / J. Stewart - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

W. Moen advised that the global consent for the raising of the stopbank is not going ahead just at the moment but staff are going to apply for an Envirolink grant for \$5,000 to cover the costs of detailed catchment information. This will be applied for in the coming months.

M. Meehan advised that options for the reclassification of the rating district will be discussed in general business.

FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2012. He advised that the opening balance was \$1115,689.36 and the closing balance as at 30 June 2012 is \$135,290.41. M. Meehan advised that \$111,422.75 was spent during the financial year.

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

A. Harris / J. Stewart - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising relating to the financial report.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period: 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. He advised that a total \$104,538.50 worth of works were carried

out during the reporting period with \$7,488 of this being for capital works and \$97,050.50 for maintenance works.

W. Moen advised that he carried out an inspection with the committee on the 9th of August and \$39,340 worth of works were identified but this figure includes \$20,000 for unforeseen maintenance. W. Moen reported that cheap rock was available from Andrew Birchfield and this made the work very cost effective.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Works Report covering the 2011 / 2012 financial year be adopted.

2. That the 2012 / 2013 works proposals be approved.

A. Campbell / J. Stewart - Carried

RATES 2013 / 2014

W. Moen advised that in view of the proposed works and the current rate strike of \$100,000 at the end of the 2013 / 2014 financial year there is likely to be a balance of \$206,000 in the rating district account. Discussion took place on the rate strike. A. Campbell stated that he feels the rate strike needs to stay at \$100,000 until the account builds up again.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the rate strike for the 2012 / 2013 financial Year is \$100,000 (GST Excl)."

A. Campbell / R. Hodgkinson - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Chinn reminded the meeting that this rating district has a rotation policy in place.

It was suggested that the rotation policy would stay in place with the two on the top of the list each year standing down therefore Mr Campbell and Mr Hodgkinson are due to stand down this year. Cr Chinn advised that they are eligible for re-election.

Moved: *"That A. Campbell and R. Hodgkinson are re-elected to the rating district committee:*

B. McGrath / M. Aynsley – Carried

M. Meehan stated that in view of the potential changes to the rating district classifications he feels that it is advisable that someone from the township elected onto the committee.

Moved: *"That M. Aynsley is elected to the rating district committee to represent ratepayers in the township".*

A. Campbell / B. McGrath – Carried

Moved: *"That the following members, namely:*

J. Arnold

J. Stewart

A. Campbell

R. Hodgkinson

G. Robertson

M. Aynsley be elected as the committee for the 2012/ 2013 financial year."

B. McGrath / M. Aynsley - Carried

Moved: *"That A. Campbell be re- elected as the spokesperson for the 2012 / 2013 financial year."*

B. McGrath / M. Aynsley - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Proposed Rating Classification Review

M. Meehan advised that at last year's annual meeting it was moved *"that council looks into options for the township of Harihari to reduce the rates for ratepayers in the township"*. He advised that it was felt that the Urban 1 and Urban 2 rates were too high and a fixed rate would give relief to the ratepayers in the township. This would mean that the Urban 1 would be reduced from a differential of 200 to 68 and Urban 2 would be reduced from 100 to 34.

M. Meehan drew attention to the map of the rating district which was included in the agenda papers. He advised that the blue section on the map were empty sections but some blue areas now have buildings on them. It was agreed that one urban class for the whole town would be best. M. Meehan advised that over the years things have changed in the township. B. Thomson stated that he feels the green areas of the map should also be included. Extensive discussion took place. It was stated that everyone wants protection from the same river. D. Hoddinott stated that he was confused with what is being proposed. M. Meehan clarified that the brown, blue and red classifications would become one classification and the ratepayers of these properties would all benefit by paying less rates. One speaker stated that the reason for the problems with the township paying higher rates has been because the rate strike has been higher some years and not so high other years. M. Meehan advised that ratepayers would still be able to make submissions via the Annual Plan process.

Moved: *"That the Wanganui Rating District accepts the proposed new differential which will be used to calculate rate strikes from the 2013 / 2014 year onwards."*

R. Hodgkinson / M. Aynsley - Carried

Stopbank

J. Stewart asked about works on the stopbank. W. Moen advised that J. Arnold Contracting Ltd is arranging this.

R. Hodgkinson asked how does the La Fontaine part of the scheme overlap as he understands that part of the scheme is classification A, B and C. The rating district is to clear the drains where necessary. It was noted that the purple classification area is part of the scheme. B. McGrath stated that years ago this section was in the forme Poerua rating district. M. Meehan agreed that the creek running through the town does need a clean out. D. Hoddinott stated that he owns the motels and he has been cleaning out the creek that runs through his property. B. Thomson asked if the purple classification pays rates. M. Meehan responded that they do not pay rates. W. Moen stated that the rating district could submit on the Annual Plan if they wish to have this area included in the rating district.

A. Campbell asked if the Wanganui quarry has been sold yet. M. Meehan advised that he is currently going through the tender process for the quarry. J. Stewart asked if the sale of the quarry would cover the costs of the access road to the quarry. M. Meehan responded that the access road to the quarry is being worked through at the moment.

Cr Chinn thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.05 a.m.

Action Points for follow up

- Produce and circulate rating district classification areas and liaise with committee to work out the new classifications.
- Provide to the next meeting, an aerial map detailing what works are included in the Wanganui Rating District.