

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
KARAMEA RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE KARAMEA FIRE STATION
ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2013, COMMENCING AT 1.02 PM.

PRESENT

B. Langford, H & M. Macbeth, P. McClintock, P. Langford, R. Sampson, W. Alber, B. Jones, B. Lodge, D. Simkin, G. Volckman, C. Hellyer, P. Curry

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
T. Archer, R. Scarlett (Councillor)
C. Ingle (CEO), W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

R. Barton, P. Sampson

H. Macbeth / M. Macbeth - Carried

BUSINESS

T. Archer opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

It was confirmed that all present are members of the Karamea Rating District.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 18 October 2012, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting, with the corrections made as listed below."*

B. Jones / D. Simkin - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that Cr Scarlett was not present at last year's annual meeting. P. Sampson's name was mentioned twice on page three. It was agreed that P. Moynihan should have been included in this.

Cr Archer drew attention to the new format of the reports. Cr Archer advised that some rating districts have opted not to have an annual meeting. He stated that Karamea can choose not to have an annual meeting if they wish.

H. Macbeth expressed his concern with the late notice of the meeting; he stated he only got his letter last week, only eight days before the meeting. H. Macbeth asked for more notice to be given for the meeting.

R. Sampson asked about the action in point in last year's minutes about the Oparara River mouth being included in the permitted activity rule via the Coastal Plan Review. C. Ingle advised that this was investigated and it could not be done but the person who was interested in this he understands is now applying for resource consent. W. Moen advised that he carried out an inspection with the landowner in this area about six weeks ago. It was noted at this time that there was a breach in the rock the wall and the landowner asked him if he could repair it. W. Moen stated that the rock wall is not in the Asset Management Plan and is therefore a private structure and the repair work was funded by the landowner and not the rating district. W. Moen stated that he would need a directive from the rating district if it is to be included in the Asset Management Plan. It was noted

that this structure predates the rating district. G. Volckman stated that the wall was built in 1937. Cr Archer suggested that the asset is included in the Asset Management Plan.

Moved: *"That once the Oparara rock wall is completed that this is included in the Karamea Rating District Asset Management Plan."*

R. Sampson / G. Volckman – Carried

Discussion ensued. Cr Archer put the motion, the voting was 6 / 5 in favour of the motion being carried. B. Langford is concerned about how long some of these works go back and he feels this could be a can of worms. B. Langford stated that the rock wall is only a small section of what could end up being included. It was noted that this breach happened quite a long time ago.

Moved: *"That the previous motion is rescinded until more complete information is to hand and all works are collated and reviewed to see if they should be put into the Asset Management Plan."*

*R. Scarlett / P. Langford - Carried
(unanimous)*

GRANITE CREEK

H. Macbeth asked if the rating district has paid any money towards the opening up of Granite Creek. W. Moen advised that there has not been anything spent on Granite Creek. B. Jones stated that there has not been any work requested so there are no costs involved. C. Ingle stated that Granite Creek has been discussed at the rating district meetings for a number of years now. The issue has now resolved itself at the very top end as there is no more material now flowing down off the hillside into the creek but it will be some years before it works its way down the creek into the estuary. P. Langford advised that the district council recently inspected the slip and the area concerned is about 5 kms of river and is 1.5 to 2m deep. He stated that the district council is worried about the road.

FINANCIAL REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report. He advised that a contribution from the Ministry of Civil Defence was recently received for the flood damage that occurred in 2010. He advised that the Karamea rating district received \$48,345 which brings that account balance to around \$112,000. C. Ingle advised that staff were very pleased about this. C. Ingle explained the current insurance system to H. Macbeth. He advised that the Catastrophe Fund now has replaced the LAPP Fund. He stated that the LAPP Fund was exhausted following the Christchurch earthquakes so now that council is self-insuring this means that there will always be cover.

C. Ingle explained the prudent reserve theory to the meeting. He stated that target balance for the prudent reserve for this rating district is \$150,000. H. Macbeth asked how much it costs for staff to come to Karamea for its meeting. C. Ingle advised that this meeting is combined with the Kongahu meeting and the cost is minimal. He stated that he would consider not having a meeting only if there was nothing to discuss.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen spoke to this report. He advised that a total of \$10, 920 worth of work was carried out during the reporting period around G. Volckman's property.

W. Moen advised that as a result of an inspection carried out on the 13th of August no immediate works were identified. He suggested that \$5,000 is allowed for removal of trees on the stopbank, \$15,000 for damage repairs to stopbank batters and \$10,000 for unforeseen maintenance. He stated that this amount equates to \$30,000 and it may or may not be used.

A speaker asked how the rates are worked out. W. Moen stated that there are several different rating classifications in this rating district. Cr Archer stated that it is up to the rating district to decide if they would like the classifications reviewed. C. Ingle advised that the rating district would have to pay for this. Cr Archer advised that this matter may be better left for the new committee to work through. G. Volckman stated that it would cost a lot of money to change the rating district classifications. Cr Scarlett asked why the rating district would want to change the classifications. A speaker stated that he feels it is now timely for the classifications are reviewed. Cr Scarlett stated that Terms of Reference would need to be used for the review of classifications. He feels this needs to be looked at before the committee makes recommendations. Cr Scarlett feels that this should be worked through today as those present might have some thoughts on this. H. Macbeth stated he would like to know whether or not the rating classifications are appropriate. B. Jones said risks should be assessed to see if they have changed. G. Volckman warned the meeting that this could back fire and he feels careful consideration needs to be given to ramifications as to what changes could be found. C. Ingle suggested that the question could be whether some people are benefiting more than others compared with the time when the rating district was initially set up. He stated that if the answer is no, then nothing further needs to be done. Cr Scarlett stated this needs to be kept very simple.

Moved: *"That the incoming committee reviews the rating district classifications over the next few months."*

R. Scarlett / D. Simkin - Carried

C. Ingle advised that the trees on the stopbank are a bigger problem than initially thought, down at the school end. C. Ingle advised that work will start on the trees. Cr Scarlett asked whose idea was it that trees on a stopbank are a problem. Cr Archer stated that this was Dr Graeme Smart's advice. A speaker asked who owned the trees in question. Cr Scarlett stated that he owns three of these trees. Further discussion took place on the removal of trees from the stopbank. C. Ingle stated that people were not aware trees on stopbanks were a problem until Graeme Smart mentioned this in his report. C. Ingle stated that his approach would be that the landowner is requested to take the trees out and if landowner did not remove the trees then the rating district would have to pay for this work. C. Ingle stated that tree roots may need to be removed in some cases. It was noted that the trees in the domain belong to Buller District Council. H. Macbeth suggested that an article be placed in the local newspaper advising the community that woody vegetation on the stopbank is not being encouraged. He also suggested that the rating classification review also be put into this newspaper.

RATES 2014 / 2015

The proposed rate strike is \$50,000 GST Excl. The meeting were happy with this.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Archer read out the names of the current committee. G. Volckman nominated P. McClintock, P. Langford seconded this nomination. H. Macbeth nominated all members of the current committee, B. Jones seconded this nomination. G. Volckman nominated P. Langford, B. Jones seconded this nomination.

Moved: *"That the present committee be:
Paul McClintock, Peter Langford, Darryl Simkin, Brian Jones,
Margaret Macbeth, Roger Barton and Bevan Langford
be the committee for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."*

Moved: *"That the incoming committee appoints a spokesperson for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."*

*Volckman / P. Langford - Carried
H. Macbeth against*

GENERAL BUSINESS

M. Macbeth stated that she has heard that NIWA are considering taking out some of the weather sites. C. Ingle advised Karamea at gorge which is the flow monitoring site that council relies on for flood warning is under question along with other five or six sites that they are looking at. Cr Scarlett stated that the Karamea site would always be needed for safety reasons. Cr Archer advised that these discussions have been at staff level and there has been no formal notification to council from NIWA about any changes at this stage. Discussion ensued. Cr Scarlett stated that he would be very surprised if NIWA pulled out of Karamea. He stated that he thinks NIWA will stay involved with all the major rivers on the West Coast but may pull out of some of the smaller tributaries. Cr Scarlett stated that NIWA needs the data from this end of the West Coast.

H. Macbeth suggested that the committee reports back to the rating district on the priority list from Graeme Smart's report. C. Ingle stated that work is progressing well with this.

T. Archer thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.28 p.m.

Action Points

- Ensure more notice is given for the next annual meeting.
- Place advert in Karamea Chronicle.
- Committee to review classifications.