

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
TARAMAKAU RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT STEVEN LANGRIDGE'S RESIDENCE
ON MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2013, COMMENCING AT 12.02PM.

PRESENT

M. Stewart, A. Stewart, D. Groot, S. Langridge, M. Dyke, P. Stevenson

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council

I. Cummings, A. Birchfield, A. Robb (Councillors)

M. Meehan, W. Moen, T Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

BUSINESS

Cr Robb 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 8 October 2012, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting, with the removal of Cr Birchfield's attendance and the change to the venue."*

M. Stewart / M. Dyke – Carried

MATTERS ARISING

Cr Birchfield advised that he was not present at last year's meeting. The minutes were corrected. M. Stewart advised that the venue was S. Langridge's residence and not his residence.

Action points were updated. M. Stewart stated that he did not get the cross section information that he wanted. He stated that he wants the very old information from when cross section data was first done back in 1982.

M. Meehan advised that he did supply the breakdown of staff time to the committee.

M. Meehan stated that P. Birchfield has GPS'd the stopbank and she has been keeping an eye on what spraying has been done.

M. Meehan stated that rock sources would be discussed in general business.

T. Jellyman advised that she sent the rating district minutes out as requested.

FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to the financial report and stated the opening balance was \$44,658.18 in deficit. He advised that staff time has been high this year with consenting matters on behalf of the rating district. He stated that there has also been some consultants fees and contractor costs due to the works that have been done throughout the year. M. Meehan advised that following the December 2010 floods, council applied for money through the Ministry of Civil Defence to compensate council rating districts for the work that was required in response to the flood event. M. Meehan advised that it took a long time to get this funding through government with the Minister needing to sign off on this. M. Meehan reported that the Taramakau rating district was granted \$45,500. He stated that this is the government's 40% share of the work that has been done and this amount

now brings the rating district's account back into a positive balance of around \$5,500 He stated that this money went into the rating district account over the weekend. M. Stewart voiced his concern about the consultant's fee as he thought it was going to be \$5,000 and stated that he finds it frustrating that the rating district has to pay for this. M. Meehan advised that the cost of the consultant was just over \$5,000. W. Moen stated that M. Stewart was the applicant for the consent, the rating district was an affected party and M. Stewart could be seen as having a conflict of interest with this. This is why M. Stewart could not be involved with the peer review process. It was agreed that M. Meehan would supply a breakdown of the consultant's time to the rating district. Discussion took place on the interest charged (\$3,252.07). M. Meehan advised that he would get back to the rating district regarding this matter. The meeting agreed that it would be good if the rating district account could avoid going into deficit so that interest is not charged.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013. W. Moen advised that there was \$118,086.64 worth of works done during the reporting period.

W. Moen advised that he carried out an inspection on 19 August 2013 and no were identified. W. Moen stated that he has allowed \$20,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

RATES 2014 / 2015

W. Moen advised that the proposed rate strike be \$80,000 which has been the rate strike for the last few years. M. Stewart stated that he would like to see a minimal rate strike and to pay for work as it comes up. He stated that every other business runs that way. Cr Robb reminded M. Stewart that this is not a business, it is a stopbank that protects the farms in the rating district and it is a council asset for the region. Cr Robb advised that if the rating district account is built up it will add value to the farms in the district for the future. Cr Birchfield agrees with Cr Robb and feels that money in the bank is good to have and the rate strike should be maintained. It was agreed that the rate strike for the 2014 / 2015 financial year would be \$80,000.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

T. Jellyman stated that traditionally all ratepayers in the rating district are members of the committee. S. Langridge is the current spokesperson and A. Stewart is the current deputy spokesperson. It was agreed that the spokesperson role would be rotated alternate years.

M. Stewart nominated P. Stevenson. A. Stewart seconded this.

Moved: *"That the committee will comprise of all current ratepayers."*

Moved: *"That P. Stevenson be elected as Spokesperson for the 2013 / 2014 financial year".*

M. Stewart / A. Stewart

Moved: *"That D. Groot be appointed as Deputy Spokesman for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."*

S. Langridge / M. Dyke

GENERAL BUSINESS

Rock sources: M. Meehan advised that rock sources were discussed last year and he noted that there are some small stockpiles of rock in the rating district that can be called upon if required. M. Meehan stated that using rock from the gold claim is a temporary measure and it is uncertain how much longer the gold claim will go for. M. Meehan stated that it might be wise to stockpile rock

from the gold claim while it is still there but there are costs associated with moving the rock and stockpiling it. M. Meehan stated that options could be investigated for using rock from the Langridge's quarry if S. Langridge is open to this by either setting it up as a council quarry or paying S. Langridge for rock. M. Meehan stated that he does not envisage there being a huge amount of costs involved but the bridge would need to be certified. M. Meehan stated that there is another quarry further upstream but he is not sure of the quality of the rock and the bridge would need to be certified for this as well. M. Meehan encouraged the meeting to get some more permanent options in place for rock sources. M. Meehan stated that the rating district could build up stock piles of rock over time and as works are carried out in the area as trucks will be in the vicinity. P. Stevenson suggested negotiating a deal to secure rock at the gold claim. He stated that this is DoC land. M. Meehan stated that there would be a restoration plan in place in this area and this would need to be considered. P. Stevenson stated that he thinks there is about 10,000 tonne available. Cr Robb asked W. Moen how many tonnes of rock per year the rating district usually needs. W. Moen responded that they usually use at least 2,000. Cr Robb stated that this rock could last four years. M. Stewart stated that the rock is on DoC and Timberlands land. Cr Birchfield encouraged the meeting to grab the rock while it is available. It was noted that the cost of this rock is \$8 per tonne this includes a royalty. It was agreed that M. Meehan and P. Stevenson would visit the rock source to gather further information. P. Stevenson stated that there could be an option of getting rock from another gold mining operation in the Greenstone area. M. Meehan suggested that the rating district does need to look at rock options for the long term. He stated that the quarry further up the valley may not be an option as if this area is cut off by a flood and rock is needed then access is a big problem.

S. Langridge stated that he is not prepared to open up the quarry on his land if the rating district are not going to use his rock and it is not worth the effort for him.

W. Moen stated that he would rather have the rock sitting on the edge of the river than at the gold claim. He acknowledged that it would be the rating district that would need to pay for the rock to be carted.

M. Stewart stated he thinks it would be a good idea to sell the bridge and install a culvert in its place. He stated that the bridge is underwater during a flood but a culvert would be much easier to manage. M. Stewart stated that the bridge needs to be certified but a culvert does not require certification.

There being no further rating district business to be discussed, the meeting closed at 12.38 pm.

Action Points:

- W. Moen to supply historic cross section information to Murray Stewart.
- W. Moen to supply a breakdown of the consultant's time plus costs and staff time to the rating district.
- M. Meehan to supply information regarding the interest figure in the financial report to the rating district.
- M. Meehan and P. Stevenson to visit rock sources and to ascertain availability of the rock, confirm the prices and to report back to the committee.
- M. Meehan to investigate removal of bridge and installation of culvert.