

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANGANUI RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE HARI HARI RESTROOMS ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2013, COMMENCING AT 10.10 AM.

#### PRESENT

A. Campbell, J. Stewart, R. Hodgkinson, B. Thomson, B. McGrath, M. Aynsley, D. Malone, M. Lawn

#### IN ATTENDANCE

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

#### APOLOGIES

R. McKenzie

*J. Stewart / A. Campbell - Carried*

#### 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 10 October 2012, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

*A. Campbell / J. Stewart - Carried*

#### MATTERS ARISING

M. Meehan advised that the reclassification of the rating district was done and went out to public consultation via the annual plan process. M. Meehan advised that there is now a single urban classification for the township. This has reduced the rates for those ratepayers in the township.

W. Moen advised that new maps for the rating district will be to hand shortly, he stated that this job is about half way through.

It was noted that the class in the rating district which do not pay into the scheme is actually the old Poerua scheme. M. Meehan stated that the reason they don't pay in is because they do not get any direct benefit from the works. M. Meehan asked if the rating district would like this area to become part of the scheme and to work with the committee to see if they should or shouldn't pay and if so how much should they pay. B. Thomson suggested that the map is consulted to see if this area should be in the scheme.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2013. He advised that the closing balance as at 30 June 2013 was \$178,959.86. M. Meehan advised that \$111,422.75 was spent during the financial year.

M. Meehan advised that following the December 2010 flood event, council staff has successfully applied to the Ministry of Civil Defence for a flood claim and this rating district was granted \$166,500. He advised that this money was paid into the rating district

account over the weekend. This now brings the rating district account balance to \$345,500. M. Meehan stated that this is a big boost to the rating district coffers.

A. Campbell asked if the quarry has been sold. Cr Chinn confirmed the sale of the Wanganui quarry. M. Meehan stated that the road was almost paid off and there is now nothing owing on this. M. Meehan advised that the quarry has been brought by Sicon Fergusons Ltd and they intend to get rock from the quarry and this rock will be available for work in this area.

A speaker asked what the consultancy fee in the financial report is for. W. Moen advised this fee is for the consultant (M. Gardner, River Edge Consulting Ltd) who has been contracted to provide theoretical flood level information for the rating scheme. W. Moen stated that once this report is finalised any weak spots or potential problem areas will be identified and pinpointed to see what improvements are required.

## **WORKS REPORT**

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period: 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013. He advised that a total \$107,293.68 worth of works were carried out during the reporting period with \$77,063.60 of this being for capital works, this money was recovered from the individuals who had this work done, and \$30,230.08 for maintenance works.

W. Moen advised that he carried out an inspection with the committee on 14 August 2013, \$60,000 worth of works were identified, this figure includes \$20,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

It was noted that the work carried out in September 2012 was on Tom Denham's frontage and not J. Stewart's as in the works report on page 1.

W. Moen advised that there is about \$6,000 worth of works required on J. Stewart's frontage which will be carried out shortly. W. Moen asked the meeting if they were happy with the recent rock work that was done. W. Moen stated that J. Stewart and A. Campbell are happy with this work. W. Moen expressed his concern with the supply of rock in the area. He stated that A. Birchfield has rock available and so does B. McGrath but there is not a lot of rock in reserve aside from rock at the Whataroa quarry and that costs money to cart to Hari Hari.

## **RATES 2013 / 2014**

M. Meehan advised the meeting that council is now looking at a target balance for a 'prudent reserve' for rating districts. He explained that this come about because some rating districts are concerned about paying more rates and more rates and not knowing how much is a sensible target balance, especially for those rating districts that do not spend a lot of money on works. M. Meehan advised that a prudent reserve for this rating district would be around \$500,000 and noted that the rating district is well on its way to this figure with a current balance of around \$345,000. M. Meehan advised that the Asset Management Plan for this rating district states that potential damage exposure could be anywhere from \$1.1M to \$2.3M. M. Meehan stated that once this rating district gets to \$500,000 then the rate could be cut down to a maintenance rate. A. Campbell stated that he is in favour of keeping the rate strike at \$100,000 for this year to try to get to \$500,000. B. Thomson agrees with this and stated that as long as the rating district is not tempted to spend money, then this is a good idea.

## **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 J. Arnold and Mr J. Stewart are due to stand down this year. Cr Chinn advised that they are eligible for re-election. Therefore their names go to the bottom of the list.

*A. Campbell  
R. Hodgkinson  
G. Robertson  
M. Aynsley (represents ratepayers in the township)  
J. Arnold  
J. Stewart be elected as the committee for the 2013/ 2014  
financial year."*

A. Campbell was re-elected as the spokesperson for the 2013 / 2014 financial year.

Cr Chinn thanked the rating district committee and A. Campbell; he stated that the rating district is functioning much better now than it was a few years ago. Cr Chinn stated that by sorting issues out prior to the meeting helps everything run smoothly.

B. Thomson drew attention to the extra "1" in the minutes of the financial report. This should read \$115,689.36.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr Davidson stated that the rating district should be looking for another quarry. It was noted that there are another couple of rock sources available locally (new the gold claim). W. Moen stated that it is important that a reasonable amount of rock is available for emergencies. It was noted that there could be a rock source at One One Valley. This land is Maori land. M. Meehan offered to look into this for the rating district.

A. Campbell thanked Cr Chinn for being the councillor for the Wanganui rating district over the years. Cr Chinn stated that he has enjoyed the river works side of council as he has been involved with the Waitaha River and the Mikonui River with his farming operations in this area.

Cr Chinn thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.40 a.m.

### **Action Points for follow up**

- Consider whether the land that used to be the Poerua scheme should be included in the rating district or not. M. Meehan to check map of this area and liaise with the committee.
- M. Meehan investigate possible rock source at One One Valley.