

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE**  
**FRANZ JOSEF RATING DISTRICT**  
**HELD AT THE MUELLER COMPLEX , FRANZ JOSEF**  
**ON 14 NOVEMBER 2014, COMMENCING AT 1.05 PM.**

**PRESENT**

C. Brooks, T. Gibb, G. Gibb, J. Arbuckle, P. Devereux (OPUS), G. Berry (Franz Community Council), T & L. Skinner, B. Millin, P. Witsan (OPUS), G. Brake, D. Nolan, D. Ferguson, P. York, R. Bungeruth, A. Tschampel, I. Hartshorne, C. Roy, A. Meldrum, W. Costello (DoC),

**IN ATTENDANCE**

West Coast Regional Council  
P. McDonnell (Councillor), S. Challenger (Councillor)  
M. Meehan, W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

**APOLOGIES**

G. Molloy.

**Moved:** *That the apologies be accepted*

*G. Gibbs / W. Costello*

**BUSINESS**

Cr McDonnell 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 September 2013, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."***

*I. Hartshorne / T. Gibb - Carried*

**MATTERS ARISING**

The action points were updated and all were completed as requested. M. Meehan advised the issues relating to the south bank will be discussed in general business.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2014. The opening balance for the year was \$227,477.23. He reported that there was \$18,806.89 worth of expenses incurred during the year with half of this amount spent on the flood modelling report. The closing balance is \$422,920.51 which includes a payment of \$101,332.38 from the Ministry of Civil Defence following the 2010 flood event.

**WORKS REPORT**

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period; 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. He reported that there was no maintenance works carried out but \$3,937.24 worth of cross section survey work was done.

W. Moen advised that as a result of the inspection carried out on 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2014 \$38,750 worth of works were identified. This includes \$20,000 allowed for unforeseen works. W. Moen stated that a small section of work linking the Helipad and Church stopbanks was identified in the Gardner report. This work will form an unprotected stopbank and will cost around \$18,000.

W. Moen reported that a lot of work has been done around the north stopbank. He advised there have been meetings held with NZTA, Electronet, Scenic Circle Hotel and Westland District Council (four parties) to discuss this area. W. Moen advised that the rating district has opted out and does not want to spend any money in this area at the moment. A temporary plan has been made for this area which includes a gravel stopbank in the short term. Longer term a fully rock protected stopbank from the Helipad to the sewage ponds is being considered. M. Meehan advised that the four parties are funding the emergency works in different proportions. He advised that the rating district felt that because there was not a direct benefit to those within the rating district that they would not contribute to the original emergency works. M. Meehan advised that the rating district does have an interest in what happens on the north side. He suggested that the four parties and the rating district gets together and looks at putting together an options report for consideration. There would be no commitment around proportions at this stage but it is suggested that the rating district contributes \$7,500 towards the options report.

A speaker asked why wasn't the diversion channel put in as this was in the original contract. W. Moen advised that the cut that was put in in this area was temporary to divert some of the water out of the main channel, but over the time it took to place the rock there were several freshes in the river. The speaker stated that he felt this was emergency works and that it took too long to do this work. M. Meehan advised that there is nothing stopping any party from performing emergency works as long as they use the correct emergency powers as laid out in the RMA. M. Meehan stated that it is important that the rating district participates in this. Extensive discussion took place on the recent contract for the works on the north bank downstream from the township. M. Meehan stated that he would follow up with the contractors and report back to the committee as soon as possible.

M. Meehan stated that the other option is for Council to leave the four parties to work the situation out themselves. M. Meehan stated that if NZTA has better ideas on how to do this and they have the options in front of them, and they don't want to be delayed then Council won't proceed with the options report. NZTA can then proceed and work in with the other parties. M. Meehan agreed that it will take Council a little time to get the options report together but if NZTA have plans in place that they wish to progress then they should proceed with their plans if they are concerned about the state highway network.

A speaker asked if the emergency stockpile of rock in this area could be used. W. Moen stated that this rock belongs to the rating district and these works do not have anything to do with the rating district. He stated that the rating district chose not to get involved with this as none of the rating district's assets are being affected. Cr McDonnell stated that the dilemma of this meeting is that matters that are being discussed are outside of the rating district. Cr McDonnell stated that the issue is whether or not the rating district wishes to be involved with finding a long term solution. M. Meehan stated there is no holistic plan for the Waiho River, he stated that all the parties involved have different things that they are responsible for. Council is looking after the rating district, NZTA is looking after the road, and WDC has assets it is looking after as well. He stated that when it comes time for works to be paid for that is when everything comes to a stop. M. Meehan advised that council keeps the other parties in the loop, it shares information with the other parties as well.

The Goldminer present (G. Brake) explained the location of his gold claim to the meeting and advised the area is 47 hectares, from the Callery to Canavans Knob. M. Meehan stated there are plenty of gravel extractions with mining permits over them. He asked G. Brake if he has gravel and rock on his mining permit or just gold, G. Brake stated his mining permit is for gold only.

Cr McDonnell stated advised that M. Meehan and W. Moen would look at the tender documents to ensure that the correct work was carried out as per the contract document. M. Meehan stated that Council took the lead role organizing the meeting to get the parties together, which then came up with plan for emergency works. The clear message he got from the rating district committee is that are not prepared to put money into this and until there is a plan on paper then contributions

from Electronet, NZTA and other parties cannot be made. Cr Challenger advised that careful consideration needs to be given to the overall picture as this is such a dynamic environment. M. Meehan asked the NZTA representatives if NZTA would commit financially to a permanent stopbank. G. Gibb stated that this should be put to the vote to see if the rating district is prepared to commit financially. P. Devereux stated that NZTA would need to see the options paper before committing financially and they can only replace the bank during an emergency event, like for like, you cannot do any betterment. He stated that funds need to be sought for anything over and above an emergency event for long term plans. M. Meehan advised a medium term option could be progressed. He suggested that Council could talk with NZTA, the other four parties and the spokesperson from the rating district to work out this medium term option. Discussion took place on what is emergency works and what isn't. M. Meehan stated that a potential solution is for the four parties and the spokesperson for the rating district to meet in Franz Josef on Monday. M. Meehan stated that the contract for emergency works will also be looked at to make sure this work was done right. The medium term options paper needs to be done along with a longer term options paper. The meeting is happy with this. Cr McDonnell advised that the discussion regarding the south side of the river will be parked until towards the end of the meeting.

### **RATES 2015 / 2016**

M. Meehan advised the meeting that the rate strike has been set at \$100,000 which is the same as previous years. He noted that there is a healthy balance in the rating district account of \$420,000. A speaker asked where would the point be when the rating district would not be rated \$100,000 each year. M. Meehan stated that the prudent reserve for this rating district is \$280,000 and this could be a little conservative for this rating district. He feels \$0.5M would be a good amount to work towards so that emergencies can be catered for. M. Meehan stated that given the situation on the north side there is the potential for Council to have to dip into this money to pay for works. M. Meehan stated that it can be hard to build up the account again and it is difficult to balance. M. Meehan advised that when major works have been done the cost has usually been around \$200,000. T. Gibb stated that he is in favour of keeping the rate strike the same as money can be hard to find. C. Brooks agreed with this. The meeting agreed that the rate strike would stay at \$100,000.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

T. Jellyman read out the names of the current members of the rating district committee. It was noted that Kevin Gibson has now left the area.

**Moved:**            ***"That the present committee, namely:***

***Chris Brooks***

***John Arbuckle***

***Chris Roy***

***Grant Gibb***

***Tim Gibb***

***Ian Hartshorne***

***Gavin Molloy***

***Peter York***

***be appointed as the committee for the 2014 / 2015 financial year."***

G. Gibb stated that he would like to step down as spokesperson. He has previously advised that meeting that he has a conflict of interest and he would like to step down this year. M. Meehan encouraged the meeting to put forward two or three people as key contacts. M. Meehan suggested a rotation policy for the spokesperson. G. Gibb agreed to do this for one more year. Cr McDonnell stated that during the next 12 months someone needs to step up to relieve G. Gibb of this role. Extensive discussion took place and it was suggested that a deputy spokesperson be appointed. Nobody put their hand up for this role.

**Moved:        *"That G. Gibb be re-elected as the spokesperson for the 2014/ 2015 financial year."***

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.32 p.m and went into committee.

### Action Point

- M. Meehan to follow up with contractors following work done on the north bank and report back to the rating district committee.