

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 MAY 2015, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

P. Ewen (Chairman), A. Robb, A. Birchfield, P. McDonnell, T. Archer, N. Clementson,
J. Douglas, F. Tumahai

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), R. Mallinson
(Corporate Services Manager), J. Adams (Consents & Compliance Manager),
T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

Moved (Archer / Robb) *That the apology from Cr Challenger be accepted.*

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (Robb / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 14 April 2015, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

Cr Birchfield asked if there has been an update from MfE regarding the NES for air quality in the Reefton Airshed. C. Ingle advised that it was discussed at the regional CEO's meeting in Wellington last week, where officials from MfE advised that a full set of advice had been provided to the Minister and they were awaiting directions from him. M. Meehan feels it would be sensible for Council to hold back and to wait and see what MfE comes up with regarding the requirement to meet the NES by 2016. M. Meehan advised that other councils are not making changes to their air plans and are doing similar work to what this council has done with the Warm West Coast scheme. M. Meehan advised that MfE acknowledge that there will be half, if not more of the airsheds that will not meet the 2016 deadline. Cr Ewen agreed with M. Meehan's comments and stated that there needs to be some movement with the three exceedances limit set in the NES as this is unrealistic.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Ewen reported that he and The Chairman attended the sod turning for the Arthurs Pass Mingha Bluff improvements.

Cr Ewen stated that he received a few phone calls about the Kingston Flyer debate. He advised the callers that this is not a matter for the regional council.

Moved (Ewen / Robb)

Carried

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGERS REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that to date two hui have been held with Iwi on the Coastal Plan review. He advised that good discussions have been had and there are plans for one more hui on 3 June. M. Meehan stated that pre-consultation has been held with DoC and the three district councils, and after the 3 June hui all parties will then get together to discuss what has come out of the pre-consultation feedback. M. Meehan stated that following this a councillor workshop will be held to discuss potential changes to the draft Plan.

For the Land and Water Plan, M. Meehan advised that all Schedule 2 wetland landowners have now been contacted by phone; and follow ups in the field have been done with some of these landowners. He stated that staff are currently working through final boundary changes and a workshop will be arranged with RMC members following the June meeting. M. Meehan stated that he is aiming to have a final draft of the Land and Water Plan to the July meeting for notification.

M. Meehan reported that a farmer near Inangahua has discovered Yellow Bristle Grass near the roadside. M. Meehan advised that the farmer had recognised this pest plant from a visit he had made to a friend in Taranaki where Yellow Bristle Grass is a problem. He stated that information has been sent out to farmers via Westland Milk Products newsletter alerting farmers of the potential problems with this pest plant. M. Meehan stated that NZTA have been very proactive in helping to get this matter sorted and under control. Cr Archer asked M. Meehan if there are specific pesticides that can be used. M. Meehan advised that there is a herbicide that works well but this is expensive and it is important that this grass is brought under control quickly.

Cr Ewen asked if resource consents have been issued for the work on the contaminated sites work at Waiuta and Alexander mine sites. It was agreed that J. Adams would follow up on this.

Cr Birchfield stated that the Queen's Counsel who is investigating the wetlands case is seeking further information and he will be in touch with M. Meehan within the next week.

Moved (Robb / Archer)

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

J. Adams spoke to this report. He advised that eight resource consents were issued; three changes to consent conditions were received during the reporting period. J. Adams advised that the resource consent for the dredge has now been progressed and will be granted. J. Adams stated there were actually 44 written public enquiries responded to during the reporting, not 24 as in his report.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell) *that the May 2015 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.1 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

J. Adams spoke to this report and advised that 68 site visits were made during the reporting period. He reported that 43 dairy farm effluent systems were inspected with four found to be non-compliant. Sampling has been completed and all are now compliant. J. Adams reported that six complaints were received during the reporting period and two infringement notices, a warning and an abatement notice were issued as a result of these complaints. J. Adams reported that seven work programmes were received during the reporting period and all seven have now been approved. J. Adams advised that one mining bond was received and one bond has been recommended for release.

J. Adams answered various questions from councillors.

Moved (Archer / Robb)

1. *That the May 2015 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
2. *That the bond held by Granville Mining Ltd RC09167, is released.*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 10.48 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date