

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE**  
**FRANZ JOSEF RATING DISTRICT**  
**HELD AT THE ST JOHN'S ROOMS, FRANZ JOSEF**  
**ON 13 OCTOBER 2017, COMMENCING AT 1.05 PM.**

**PRESENT**

G. Berry, C. Brooks, A. Cassin, L. Skinner, P. Cumming, A. Tschampel, J. Funnell, T. Gibb, G. Gibb, P. Wilson, C. Roy, P. York, (I. Hartshorne via telephone)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

West Coast Regional Council  
P. McDonnell (WCRC Councillor), S. Challenger (WCRC Councillor)  
B. Smith (WDC Mayor), D. Havill (WDC Councillor)  
R. Beal, B. Russ (Staff)

**APOLOGIES**

T. Skinner, M. Meehan, G. Gordon,

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

*C. Brooks / C. Roy*

**BUSINESS**

Cr McDonnell opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff. Cr McDonnell stated that this meeting is a rating district meeting but he welcomed the participation of those who are not members of the rating district to the meeting.

**Moved:** ***"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 9 November 2016, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting, with the amendments listed below.***

*G. Gibb / C. Roy - Carried  
L. Skinner – against*

L. Skinner stated that it has been previously agreed that the rating district is informed of any spend over \$5,000 and this will continue. L. Skinner stated that M. Meehan had agreed to reallocate some of the costs of consultancy fees away from the rating district but this has not happened. R. Beal stated that M. Meehan is happy with the current allocation of costs. R. Beal confirmed that NZTA has contributed to the LiDAR costs.

L. Skinner requested that the minutes are sent out to the rating district within a few weeks of the meeting. Extensive discussion took place regarding the previous year's minutes and the confidential minutes of the meeting in 2015.

**MATTERS ARISING**

The action points were updated. Discussion took place on the accuracy of the minutes from the previous meeting.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

R. Beal presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2017. He reported that the opening balance was \$458,948.60 and total revenue was \$115,847.70, total expenses were \$144,835.73 and the closing balance was \$429,960.57. L. Skinner asked what the consultant costs were. R. Beal confirmed that the consultants were Land River and Sea, and Garry Williams. These were all coded 50 / 50 with the general rate and one was retrospectively re-coded to the general rate. R. Beal answered various questions relating to consultant fees, resource consents costs. B. Russ confirmed that all resource consents, WCRC and NZTA's resource consents are being merged into one consent for the whole Waiho River.

## **WORKS REPORT**

B. Russ spoke in detail to this report and confirmed that there were concerns raised at last year's meeting that the church and helipad stopbanks were not built to the proper height. B. Russ stated that the as-builts were done and he has rechecked that this has been built to the right height. B. Russ reported that \$117,156 worth of works was carried out during the financial year to the end of June 2017, included was \$3,040 worth of river training work. B. Russ advised that the contractor advised him that he was having trouble completing the work and therefore no further work was carried out. B. Russ stated he is very happy with the standard of the work done on the church and helipad stopbank.

B. Russ reported that following discussion with the spokesperson no future work has been identified but he recommended that \$20,000 is allowed for unforeseen maintenance.

## **RATES 2017 / 2018**

Cr McDonnell confirmed that the recommended rate strike for the 2018 / 2019 financial year is \$50,000, he clarified that the figure of \$100,000 is an error in this year's report. He advised that the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2018 / 19 year is likely to be \$510,000 GST exclusive. It was noted that the rate strike for the current financial year was struck at \$50,000 at last year's meeting. B. Russ advised that the prudent reserve is \$550,000. L. Skinner stated that the rating district currently has \$127,000 worth of rock stockpiled at the moment. He stated if this is included in the cash in the rating district account then this takes the account over the figure for the prudent reserve.

B. Russ asked the meeting if they are would sell rock from the south side of the rating district to the Lower Waiho rating district if required. L. Skinner stated that this year they are proposing to use this rock.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Cr McDonnell read out the names of the current members of the rating district committee. He asked if those currently on the committee are happy to remain on it. L. Skinner asked the meeting if anyone would like to join the committee. There were no new members elected to the committee.

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

***Chris Brooks***

***Chris Roy***

***Grant Gibb***

***Tim Gibb***

***Ian Hartshorne***

***Peter York***

***Logan Skinner***

***Paul Cumming***

***be appointed as the committee for the 2017 / 2018 financial year."***

**Moved:           *"That I. Hartshorne and L. Skinner be elected as joint spokesmen for the 2017/ 2018 financial year."***

*C. Roy / P. Cumming - Carried*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

L. Skinner raised the matter of the house on the south side of the river. He stated that this was discussed at the confidential meeting on 14 November 2014. NZTA have previously committed for purchasing the house. L. Skinner stated that the occupier is a former member of the rating district and he would like the rating district to help the occupier move on if possible. L. Skinner stated that if there is a flood the occupier is on her own and this would not be a good situation for the town. L. Skinner stated that it would be good if NZTA could be reminded of this matter. B. Russ advised that he will raise this with NZTA on a meeting scheduled for this Thursday.

L. Skinner stated that the rating district is not keen on rock spurs being used in the river and they would like NZTA to stop using rock spurs as this is raising the bed of the river. P. Wilson stated that now that rock is being removed from the river this is helping to drop the level. B. Russ agreed and stated that it would be good to recover rock from the river at least twice a year. Extensive discussion took place on rock recovery, methodology around this and channelling of the river. Cr Challenger stated that rock recovery and river training is only a short term solution and this will change as soon as the next flood happens. Discussion took place on previous emergency works. B. Russ advised that any work done upstream affects what happens downstream. It was agreed that resource consents would be checked to see what work is allowed for. L. Skinner stated that this was discussed last year and another year has gone and nothing constructive has been done. B. Russ stated that he obtained a price for work to be done last year but the rating district had not confirmed that they wanted to go ahead with the job. B. Russ stated that a global resource consent has been applied for; this will go from the bridge to the moraine.

I. Hartshorne stated that the same stuff has been discussed for years and it is time something was done. B. Russ stated that in 2015 the regional council put a design to the rating district which would have taken the stopbank past the sewage pond. B. Russ stated that NZTA and Westland District Council were all going to contribute but the rating district declined to go ahead. I. Hartshorne stated that the rating district wanted to extend the stopbank by 200 – 400 metres as this is affordable. Cr McDonnell stated that there was concern that this would have sent the river directly towards the unprotected effluent ponds. L. Skinner stated that had this been completed then the hotel may not have been flooded. R. Beal asked the meeting for a clear direction on what and where they want the stopbank. He suggested that once this information is to hand then a design can be done and consultation with the rating district can be held to work through the whole proposal. L. Skinner asked if a quote could be obtained based on 250 and 400 metres of stopbank. Extensive discussion took place. B. Smith stated that the community needs to decide whether or not they want to protect themselves. He stated that he does not understand why there is not one rating group on the northern side of the river. R. Beal agreed and advised that this has been put to the rating district several times but it has been rejected by the rating district each time it has been raised. R. Beal stated that clear direction is necessary. Extensive discussion took place. B. Russ stated that NZTA do not want the Helipad stopbank extended as they want the river to fan as far as it can, (OPUS have advised this).

River training was discussed and it was agreed that a 25 / 75 split of costs with NZTA would be requested. P. Wilson stated that NZTA's protection work is protecting the town. The rating district agreed to pay a percentage of the costs for rock recovery with the bulldozer. It was agreed that the resource consent conditions for the spurs on both sides of the river would be looked at. B. Smith asked the meeting if there is an appetite for having just one rating district. He stated that there are 221 ratepayers and having different rating groups does not make sense to him. R. Beal

stated that NZTA are keen on this idea. Discussion took place on possible options for a single rating district.

Cr McDonnell thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.35 p.m.

**Action Points:**

- Send out minutes once they have been adopted by Council.
- Ensure the rating district is informed of any spend over \$5,000.
- WCRC to approach NZTA for a 75% / 25% cost split plus rock split for any rock recovery done on the Waiho River.
- B. Russ to liaise with NZTA regarding the relocation of the occupier on the south side of the river.
- WCRC to discuss discontinuing the use of rock spurs on the Waiho River.
- B. Russ to check resource consents for Waiho River as the rating district may be an affected party.
- B. Russ to discuss with NZTA rock recovery with the bulldozer starting at the Waiho Loop and rock recovery with the bulldozer starting at Canvans Knob.
- B. Russ to obtain costs for a 400 metre extension to the stopbank.