

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), G. McCormack (Consents & Compliance Manager), N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager), H. Mills (Planning Science & Innovation Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media

1. APOLOGIES

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

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (McDonnell / Archer) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 8 August 2017, be confirmed as correct, with the amendments listed below made.*

Carried

Matters Arising

Cr Ewen drew attention to page 1 on the minutes and asked if NZTA are going to bring just their works for the Waiho River under one consent. M. Meehan confirmed that the intention was to cover works under one consent.

Cr Ewen drew attention to page 4 of the minutes; he said that he now has the response from his information request relating to the transfer of mining functions. He stated that if he had this information earlier he would not have supported the transfer of mining functions as he feels this matter was unresolved and he was presented in an ad hoc manner.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

There was no Chairman's report due to Cr Clementson's absence.

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING REPORT

H. Mills spoke to this report. He spoke of the changes to the NES for Freshwater Management including funding for 33 projects across the country. H. Mills stated that changes to the NES

include national swimming targets with 90% of NZ's rivers and lakes swimmable by 2040 with regional councils required to set draft regional targets by 31 March 2018 and final regional targets by 31 December 2018. H. Mills reported that reviews have been carried out by the Ministry looking at regional councils progressing towards implementation of the NPS for freshwater management. Cr McDonnell asked how many rivers are likely to be monitored in the region. H. Mills responded that he is unsure at this stage but the Ministry will advise on this. Cr McDonnell asked if there is any update on what the stock exclusion policy is going to be. M. Meehan advised that guidance usually follows once the NES comes out and that ideally this would be developed before the NES or NPS is released. M. Meehan stated that this is frustrating and disappointing and in particular the forestry NES has been developed over 13 or 14 years with different iterations and various cost benefit analysis. The Chairman stated that there is a lot of proactive discussion happening between the Chairs of regional councils and the Ministry and through Chief Executives groups.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell) *That the report is received.*

Carried

5.1.2 PROPOSED REGIONAL PEST PLANT MANAGEMENT PLAN DECISIONS REPORT

R. Beal spoke to this report and took it as read. It was agreed that the date on the report's cover would be updated to 2017.

Moved (Ewen / Archer)

1. *That Council receives the report, with the amended change of date to read 2017.*
2. *That Council releases the decisions report to the public.*

Carried

5.1.3 REEFTON AIR QUALITY SUMMARY

H. Mills spoke to this report and advised that to date there have been no exceedances of the NES for PM₁₀ in Reefton this winter to date.

Moved (Challenger / Archer)

Carried

5.1.4 HYDROLOGY AND FLOOD WARNING UPDATE

H. Mills spoke to this report and advised a moderately heavy rainfall event produced flood alarms on a few rivers. He advised that staff were not concerned as this was a minor event.

Moved (McDonnell / Challenger)

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that eight resource consents were granted during the reporting period along with five consent variations. G. McCormack reported that almost all of the whitebait resource consents have been processed and he has received all of the renewal resource consents applications for whitebait stands.

Cr Ewen stated that he made an information request to the Chief Executive on 23 July and waited beyond the statutory requirements. He stated that he has not had a response so he has engaged the Ombudsman.

Moved (Ewen / Archer) *That the September 2017 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

G. McCormack spoke to this report and advised that 58 site visits were carried out during the reporting period. He stated that 11 were non-compliant. G. McCormack reported that one formal enforcement notice was issued, three infringement notices against the same goldminer and seven abatement notices were issued during the reporting period. He reported that two work programmes have been approved.

G. McCormack answered questions from Councillors relating to complaints.

Cr Ewen asked G. McCormack if there have been any outcomes to date regarding the incident at Ross. G. McCormack advised that the investigation is almost complete with a final site visit scheduled for tomorrow. Cr Ewen asked if the operator concerned had provided a work programme prior to the incident. G. McCormack advised that that it would be inappropriate to discuss whilst the investigation is being completed.

J. Douglas asked how much land involved with regard to the rehabilitation at Rimu. G. McCormack offered to send photographs and details to J. Douglas of this area. He stated that Council has now completed all that was required.

Cr Ewen spoke of a complaint regarding cows in a river at Barrytown; he asked if there have been any developments on this. G. McCormack advised that staff have visited the site, they have responded to the complainant and there are no further concerns.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell)

- 1. *That the September 2017 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
- 2. *That the bonds for RC12228 PD Fitzgerald and RC10243 LTM Contracting are released.*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Ewen stated that he has previously brought the issue of Council having Tai Poutini written on the annual plans as he feels this is part of who we are. He would like this to be considered for next year. The Chairman suggested to Cr Ewen that it might be prudent to put a formal proposal with a report to Council so this can be considered. He suggested this be done for the next Council meeting in order for Councillors to consider this.

The meeting closed at 10.52 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date