

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 12th DECEMBER 2006, AT THE OFFICES OF THE BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL, WESTPORT, COMMENCING AT 12.40 P.M.

PRESENT:

J. Clayton (Chairman), B. Chinn, D. Shannahan, D. Davidson, P. Ewen, R. Scarlett

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), S. Moran (Planning and Environmental Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), C. Dall (Consents & Compliance Manager), T Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

G. Murphy (Chief Executive Officer – Buller District Council) from the Buller District Council was welcomed to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES:

Moved (Shannahan / Ewen) That the apologies from Bert Waghorn (Buller District Councillor) and K. Edwards be accepted.

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM (if required)

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Shannahan / Davidson) That the minutes of the Council Meeting 14 November 2006 be confirmed as correct with a minor change to Cr Chinn's comment regarding the West Coast Development Trust.

Carried

Matters arising

R. Mallinson spoke of the item brought up at last month's Council meeting regarding the flood damage in the Taramakau area and whether or not this is covered by the LAPP Fund. Information provided by Civic Assurance noting that the damage described comes under the heading "working losses or maintenance", the events have to be of a catastrophic in size such as the Manawatu floods in 2004 and will be generally widespread affecting a whole region. Therefore the LAPP Fund does not cover the recent Taramakau event.

S. Moran spoke to OPUS regarding the rock coming off the Cobden bluff as mentioned by Cr Ewen at last month's Council meeting, OPUS are happy to store this rock to use for minor works that they are undertaking.

4. REPORTS:

4.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS

S. Moran spoke to this report noting that not included in his report is the reinstatement of around 400 tonne of rock on the big hook of the Wanganui River, information provided by the Rating District Chairman notes that the river had undercut quite a lot more and therefore approximately 1000 tonne went in.

A summary of the whitebait season was given, it was noted that there was a high level of compliance with resource consents this season. There were a few complaints as per normal but

most were quickly sorted out. It is intended that all stand locations will continue to be recorded using a GPS this will allow for better efficiency for map production.

Quarry work is being carried out in Blackball, Kiwi and Inchbonnie. Rock from the Wanganui Quarry will be moved to the stockpiles.

Moved (Chinn / Ewen) That this report be received.

Carried

4.2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM THE RATING DISTRICT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Moved (Shannahan / Scarlett) That the minutes of the 2006 Rating Districts be confirmed at correct and that the Kongahu and Karamea minutes be brought to the February Council meeting for adoption.

Carried

There was discussion regarding the exposed piles in the Hokitika River.

Moved (Chinn / Davidson) That management write to Transit / OnTrack requesting the action be taken to remove the exposed piles from the Hokitika River.

Carried

4.3 VECTOR PROGRAMME MANAGER'S REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report in A. Macalister's absence. No new failures have been notified. A significant percentage of the budget has been invoiced to the Animal Health Board which is a indication of the progress being made. It was also noted that this area is ahead of normal for this time of year. An aerial programme has been planned out for the next four years.

Moved (Scarlett / Chinn) That this report be received.

Carried

4.4 CORPORATE SERVICE MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to this report noting that the Animal Health Board contributes to a significant portion of our budget.

River, Drainage and Coastal Protection is below budget due to the Greymouth floodwall upgrade not yet being completed. A pleasing result from Vector Control Services was noted by Cr Clayton.

Water Plan appeal processes and Coastal Protection schemes may impact on budget.

Moved (Davidson / Scarlett) That this report be received.

Carried

4.5 SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR 2007

Moved (Ewen / Shannahan) That Council adopt the 2007 schedule of meeting dates.

Carried

4.6 ANNUAL REVIEW – FOUR MONTH REVIEW 1 JULY 2006 – 31 OCTOBER 2006

C. Ingle reported that he is pleased with manager's performance targets to date. Cr Clayton passed on his congratulations to the Consents Department for the processing of 90% of consents within the required timeframe. Marine farming funding was discussed, C. Ingle noted that he and Cr Clayton are attending a Regional Affairs meeting in Northland in February where they will investigate funding opportunities further. Cr Shannahan expressed his disappointment with the lack of progress regarding the eradication of the Varroa Bee Mite.

Moved (Shannahan / Ewen) That this report be received.

Carried

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman spoke about the following meetings he had attended including a meeting with Chris Mackenzie, Senior Advisor to Dr Michael Cullen regarding the West Coast Development Trust matters. Mr Mackenzie will return for a further meeting later this week. The Mayors and Chairs meeting was also attended last week.

Cr Clayton and C. Ingle attended a meeting with Granity Residents regarding sea protection on 22nd November.

Cr Shannahan and Cr Ewen passed on their thanks to Cr Clayton for his efforts and professionalism regarding the West Coast Development Trust.

Cr Clayton thanked fellow Councillors and staff for their work this year, noting that it has been a good year and passed on season's greetings to all in present.

Moved (Shannahan / Davidson) That the Chairman's verbal report be received.

Carried

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report. He spoke of meetings he has attended and elaborated further on the Granity Sea Protection meeting mentioning that residents were pleased with the report from Doug Ramsay of NIWA, this report is now available on the Council website. Residents voted in favour of taking the next step, which is to prepare a Rating District Proposal. C. Ingle reported that Mr Ramsay is scheduled to meet with Hector residents in the next few weeks to discuss options in this area also. The Landcare Trust Project in the Lake Brunner catchment was attended, Cr Scarlett also attended this, both found this to be very constructive and were impressed with what has been achieved to date.

The FRST Governance Panel meeting was attended in Invercargill regarding sustainable coal mining.

C. Ingle reported that the legal proceedings in the Environmental Court relating to the Water Plan appeals are likely to stress budgets and he is looking at how to best manage this. Westport river protection works will be discussed with residents at a later date.

C. Ingle reported that the Animal Health Board contract has been signed and this is in place until June 2008.

C. Ingle reported he has completed his first year as CEO, he passed on this thanks to Council and staff for their support through the year and wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Moved (Clayton / Ewen) That this report be received.

Carried

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

The meeting closed at 1.32 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date