

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8 JULY 2008,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD,
GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.39 A.M.**

PRESENT:

R. Scarlett (Chairman), P. Ewen, B. Chinn, D. Davidson, T. Archer, A. Birchfield

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

1. APOLOGIES:

Moved (Ewen / Davidson) *that the apology from A. Robb be accepted.*

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no presentation.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Birchfield / Archer) that the minutes of the Council Meeting 10 June 2008 be confirmed as correct.

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:

4.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS

S. Moran spoke to his report. He informed Council that since writing his report there has been a second contract for works in the Lower Waiho rating district. This was due to a breach in the stopbank and is required to prevent further damage. S. Moran advised council that the Lower Waiho Rating District would need to raise a loan to pay for these works. C. Ingle clarified that the second lot of work was not included in the rating district's budget as it is emergency works. C. Ingle stated that formal commitment from Council is required to borrow for this work. Staff have consulted with the rating district informing them of the need to borrow \$75,000 over a two-year period to pay for the works.

Moved (Birchfield / Ewen) *that West Coast Regional Council approve the loan of \$75,000 for repair works in the Lower Waiho Rating District.*

Carried

Cr Scarlett requested that the range of contracts awarded in this report be listed in highest tender range.

Moved (Davidson / Chinn) that the report be received.

Carried

4.2 VECTOR PROGRAMME MANAGER'S REPORT

C. Pullen spoke to this report. He advised that 99% of the programme for 2007 / 08 has been completed by the end of June. The final 1% is on track to be finished over the next few days.

C. Pullen advised that he and his staff have been meeting with residents of the Kumara community to discuss their concerns regarding the water catchment and the effects that 1080 is alleged to have on this. C. Pullen also advised that some properties in Karamea have been pulled out of the aerial operation as the property owners have withdrawn their consent. The aerial operation in Karamea is still going ahead on a smaller scale. C. Pullen stated that it is a few hundred hectares of smaller sized properties. These areas can be covered by ground control. C. Pullen reported that he has met with members of the Kumara community regarding their water catchment. The area that has been taken out of the aerial operation will now be subject to a ground control operation. The Chairman asked C. Pullen how would the areas in Karamea that have been withdrawn be approached. C. Pullen advertised that these areas would be treated via ground control method. The Chairman asked if a landowner withdraws his consent to enter his land is there provision in the Act to carry on with the aerial drop. C. Pullen confirmed there is provision in The Biosecurity Act if the landowner did not have any form of possum control on his property to enforce control. C. Pullen stated that most of the people that are opposed to the 1080 operation are not opposed to possum control but aerial drops of 1080. Most of these people have given permission for ground control operations to go ahead. Cr Davidson asked if there were extra costs with ground control. C. Pullen stated that ground control is expensive but is not a huge extra cost overall.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that this report be received.*

Carried

4.3 CORPORATE SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He advised that we are now in the 11th month of the financial year. He stated that this report is very similar to those of the past few months. R. Mallinson said this is another satisfactory financial result for Council but once again our investment fund returns have been disappointing. R. Mallinson informed council that from now on the Animal Health Board is making the vector programme contract payments direct. Therefore several million dollars worth of turnover will disappear from Council's working and expenditure statements from 1 July onwards.

Cr Ewen asked R. Mallinson if he felt an adjustment to the projections in place for next year's Annual Plan are required in view of the increase in fuel prices. R. Mallinson advised that the mileage rate was increased last year and this is not a risk area for this Council. R. Mallinson reassured council that our fuel expense to date for the year is close to what was budgeted for.

Moved (Ewen / Archer) *that this report be received.*

Carried

4.3.1 SETTING OF RATES FOR 2008 / 09

R. Mallinson spoke to this report advising council that it is self explanatory.

Moved (Ewen / Birchfield)

RECOMMENDATION

1. *That Council set rates for the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 as per the Funding Impact Statement contained on pages 35 to 41 of the 2008/09 Annual Plan.*
2. *As per the 2008/09 Annual Plan, there are two instalments;*

The first instalment is due on 1 September 2008 with a 10% penalty date of 20 October 2008 as per sections 57 and 58 of the LGRA 2002.

The second instalment is due on 1 March 2009 with a 10% penalty date of 20 April 2009 as per sections 57 and 58 of the LGRA 2002.

A further 10% penalty will be charged on all accumulated rate arrears as at 1 July 2009.

Carried

4.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to his report. He spoke of various meetings he attending during the month including a meeting regarding air quality issues for Reefton. He concurred with Cr Birchfield that it is important that the Reefton community is consulted with in terms of health effects and that the community's needs are met. S. Moran advised that work is underway via an Envirolink funding grant, a Master's Student from the University of Canterbury is carrying out this project. Cr Archer asked if EECA have reported back with any funding propositions. C. Ingle advised that he has met with EECA again and they are seeking funding partners.

C. Ingle spoke of the meeting he had with the CEO from Landcorp Farming, they have now withdrawn the major parts of humping and hollowing project on the Weka Block that could have fed into Lake Brunner.

C. Ingle reported that the secondment agreement for staff to the Animal Health Board has now been signed off.

C. Ingle re-attached the Enforcement Policy for Stock Crossings. The wording of dairy farm raceway has now been included in this policy.

Cr Birchfield asked how much land was withdrawn from the Weka Block. C. Ingle stated that it was approximately 77 hectares in the Kangaroo Lake area, and a larger area in the Crooked River catchment.

The Chairman expressed his disappointment at the response from Hon Trevor Mallard regarding legal costs for the Mokihinui River proposed hydro scheme. The point of the letter was the likely costs to ratepayers, which was not been addressed by the Minister.

Moved (Davidson / Ewen)

- 1. That the Chief Executive's Report is received.*
- 2. That council approves the amendment to the West Coast Regional Council Enforcement Policy for Stock Crossings, as shown in the attached document.*

Carried

5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)

The Chairman advised it has been a quiet month for him. He met with the C. Ingle during the month to discuss relevant matters and enjoyed a holiday.

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) *that this report be received.*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.08 p.m

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Chairman

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Date