

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 13 JUNE 2017, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.28 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

A. Robb (Chairman), N. Clementson, P. Ewen, A. Birchfield, T. Archer, S. Challenger,  
P. McDonnell

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### **1. APOLOGIES:**

There were no apologies.

#### **2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

#### **3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved** (Clementson / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 9 May 2017, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

Cr McDonnell asked G. McCormack if the rock work in the Kaniere rating district opposite to where the proposed works are situated is consented. G. McCormack agreed to follow up on this.

#### **3.1.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Moved** (Archer / Clementson) *that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting dated 15 May 2017, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **REPORTS:**

#### **4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

R. Beal spoke to this report. He advised that the tender price for the works in the Kaniere rating district have come in significantly lower than the estimate.

R. Beal reported that the tender has been released to extract rock from the Whitehorse Quarry for use on the Punakaiki Seawall extension. He stated that if the extension does not go ahead, then this rock will be stockpiled and sold. R. Beal confirmed that all rock will be removed in one operation. Cr

Birchfield asked R. Beal if the Punakaiki rating district is likely to want to go ahead with the works. R. Beal responded that there are changes to the classifications which will increase rates for some classifications. He stated that the rating district will be putting in submissions via the annual plan process and this will reveal whether or not the works go ahead. Cr Birchfield stated that the Whitehorse rock is very good quality and is a good opportunity for the rating district to get rock at a good price.

Cr Clementson raised the matter of trees on stopbanks as he has received a lot of questions from constituents on this. He asked if the previous advice of removing trees and stumps from stopbanks still stands. M. Meehan advised that stated that there is good information available on the importance of removing theses from stopbanks.

M. Meehan drew attention to the arrival of the much awaited Niwa report on Carters Beach. Cr Ewen asked how much these reports cost Council. M. Meehan stated that the Niwa reports for Cobden Beach Rapahoe Beach are included in today's agenda and all three reports were paid for via Envirolink funding and each report costs \$5,000. Cr Archer passed on his congratulations to staff for applying to Envirolink for funding for these reports as otherwise Council would have to fund them. The Chairman stated that these reports give good information to communities and allow for Council to make informed decisions. Cr Archer stated that he is happy with the Carters Beach report. Cr Birchfield agreed with Cr Archer's statement.

R. Beal answered various questions from Councillors. Discussion took place on matters relating to rating districts, the annual plan process and the responsibilities Council has to its ratepayers.

Cr Challenger asked for an update on matters relating to Franz Josef. M. Meehan advised that staff attended the Franz Josef Working Group meeting yesterday, and the final stages of the Tonkin & Taylor work is near completion. He stated that cost benefit analysis on options will be worked through and once this has been completed a further meeting will be held to discuss where to from here. M. Meehan suggested that a meeting is held with the Carters Beach community and that the Niwa report is distributed to the community

**Moved** (Archer / Challenger)

1. *That the report is received.*
2. *That the Carters Beach Niwa Report is received and that steps are taken to initiate public consultation with the community.*

*Carried*

## **4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT**

R. Mallinson spoke to his report and advised that this is the 10 month financial report to the end of April. He reported that the operating surplus is just under \$1.5M for the reporting period. R. Mallinson stated that the excellent financial result is due to the strong VCS and PCR LP performance over the 10 month period. R. Mallinson answered questions relating to the investment portfolio and the possibility of reinvesting monies from recent land sales and purchases back into the investment portfolio. Extensive discussion ensued and it was agreed that when Council has profitable years then these profits will be put into a reserve to be used when necessary.

**Moved** (Birchfield / McDonnell) *That this report be received.*

*Carried*

## **5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT**

The Chairman spoke to his report and advised that at the recent Regional Sector Group meeting Lawrence Yule, President of Local Government NZ, provided an update and he advised that the relationship with the new Local Government Minister is at a good level. The Chairman stated that Minister Tolley visited recently. He stated that she is a very good Minister to deal with and she indicated that she is happy with the work on shared services on the West Coast. The Chairman spoke about the Edgecombe flood event which was discussed at the Regional Sector Group meeting, he stated that the review into this flood will have implications that other councils will need to be aware of in future. The Chairman stated that the Havelock North inquiry into water contamination will also have implications for other councils.

The Chairman spoke of Minister Collins visit to Westport and advised that this was a very positive and progressive meeting. Cr Clementson also attended this meeting and agreed with the Chairman's comments.

The Chairman reported that LGNZ Water Symposium was very well received, with good speakers attending. He advised that the Regional Sector Group is considering holding this event every year.

The Chairman reported that the interview process for the DWC Appointment went well with three excellent candidates interviewed. He advised that Dame Julie Christie has now officially accepted the position.

**Moved** (Robb / Archer) *that this report is received.*

*Carried*

## **6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to his report and spoke of recent meetings he attended. He advised that he was elected Chairman of the CEG on 8 May and attended the meeting for CEG Chairs on 6 June along with parts of the National Emergency Management Conference. The national review for Civil Defence in NZ is now underway with a recommending report expected shortly.

M. Meehan reported that water was the big focus at the recent LGNZ Policy Advisory Group meeting. He advised that Mayors, Chairs and CEO's from regional, unitary and territorial authorities were in attendance with discussion taking place about natural hazards and flood protection schemes, insurance and awareness of insurance and the lack of insurance during flood events. He stated that it was revealed that 40% of residents in Edgecumbe affected by the recent flood were uninsured and of those that were insured a large proportion were under insured.

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

*Carried*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Cr Ewen suggested that monies from recent land sales are put into the Catastrophe Fund. M. Meehan advised that he and R. Mallinson will be bringing a report to the next council on this matter.

The meeting closed at 12.25 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date