

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FRANZ JOSEF RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE MUELLER COMPLEX , FRANZ JOSEF ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2013, COMMENCING AT 12.32 PM.

PRESENT

C. Brooks, T. Gibb, G. Gibb, G. Molloy, T. Skinner, K. Gibson, R. Bungeruth, A. Tschampel, I. Hartshorne, C. Roy

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
B. Chinn, (Councillor), D. Davidson, (Councillor)
M. Meehan, P. Birchfield, W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

BUSINESS

Cr Davidson opened the meeting and welcomed those present.
He introduced himself and the Council staff.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 11 October 2012, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

C. Brooks / G. Gibb - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2013. The opening balance for the year was \$203,313.30. He reported that \$82,728.86 of expenses were accrued during the reporting period with most of this being spent on contractor costs. The closing balance is \$227,477.73. M. Meehan advised that following the December 2010 floods, the stopbank had to be raised. He stated that a lot of work was required in other council rating districts following this flood event. M. Meehan advised that Council staff lodged a claim with the Ministry of Civil Defence seeking funding following this flood event and the Franz Josef rating district was granted just over \$101,000. This money went into the rating district account over the weekend and brings the account balance up to \$328,800. M. Meehan stated that this is a nice healthy balance for the rating district account.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period; 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013. He reported that \$69,000 work of contracting works were completed during the reporting period with \$3,114 spent on the annual cross sections, this was the rating districts share of the cost section works. W. Moen reported that above the bridge there has been a slight erosion

of material coming down. Below the bridge to the Terminal Moraine there has been a buildup of about half a million cubic meters of sediment.

W. Moen advised that as a result of the inspection carried out on 18 July 2013 no works were identified. W. Moen advised that \$20,000 should be allowed for unforeseen works. G. Molloy asked if there is any sign of the amount of rock that is stockpiled in the report. W. Moen advised that the amount of rock stockpiled in this rating district would be shown in the asset management plan. W. Moen advised that it is important that members of the rating district keep an eye on the stockpiles to ensure that they are not removed without his knowledge. M. Meehan explained to G. Molloy that the information contained in the asset management plan is on the council website. G. Molloy requested that the total of assets be included in the financial report.

RATES 2013 / 2014

M. Meehan advised the meeting that Council is now looking at a target balance for a 'prudent reserve' for rating districts. He explained that this come about because some rating districts are concerned about paying more rates and more rates and not knowing how much is a sensible target balance, especially for those rating districts that do not spend a lot of money on works. M. Meehan advised that a prudent reserve for this rating district would be around \$280,000. He stated that the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2014 / 2015 year is likely to be around \$417,000. T. Gibbs thanked M. Meehan for the work Council staff did in gaining the \$101,000 worth of funding from the Ministry of Civil Defence. T. Gibb stated that the rating district was keen to go with the \$100,000 rate strike but now that there is extra money in the account this will need to be discussed again at a further meeting of the rating district committee. G. Molloy stated that the extra money is good news for the rating district. It was agreed that decision on the rate strike would be deferred until later in the meeting once the decision on the work required upstream is made.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

T. Jellyman read out the names of the current members of the rating district committee. It was agreed that Kathy Hartshorne is replaced by her husband Ian. It was agreed that the status quo would remain.

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

Chris Brooks

Kevin Gibson

Chris Roy

Grant Gibb

Tim Gibb

Ian Hartshorne

Gavin Molloy

Peter York

be appointed as the committee for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."

G. Molloy / C. Roy - Carried

Moved: *"That G. Gibb be re-elected as the spokesperson for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."*

G. Molloy / C. Roy - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

G. Gibb requested that the cross section reports are sent out in July so that they can be discussed prior to the meeting. It was noted that the rating district is keen to have the cross sections done every year and that they are updated so that they have current information each year as there is a lot of money at stake for work based on these reports. Discussion took place on what height

floodwalls should be built to. It was agreed that at one in 400 year level be aimed for. G. Gibb stated that it would be handy to have the 400 year level on the report each year.

G. Gibb stated that over the years there has been discussion as to whether or not the south bank should be included in the rating district. He stated that it has got to the stage where NZTA should be looking after the full south bank downstream from the bridge. G. Molloy stated that the rating district has 350 metres of bank in between two NZTA banks and there are only two properties within this area that are rated and only one is affected. G. Molloy suggested that a meeting is arranged with NZTA to progress this matter. It was noted that there are no proposed works on this side anyway so therefore it was felt that NZTA may be happy to take over this bank. M. Meehan stated that if this did happen then the motels would be removed from the rating district but NZTA would need to protect this area. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged. The meeting stated that they do not want NZTA to use the rock in this area to make spurs.

Discussion took place on the possible straightening up of the river and recovering rock from the Waiho Loop. M. Meehan advised that Council's Quarry Manager has looked at this as there is some good floating rock in this area. It was noted that this area is National Park. M. Meehan advised that this matter would need to be discussed with DoC at a high level. W. Moen stated that there would need to be a lot of river control work done in this area. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the Lower Waiho meeting later today. Cr Davidson stated that this is a positive proposal and it is worth pursuing. M. Meehan stated that rock options in this area have been investigated and this would help a lot. G. Molloy stated that sooner or later the river is going to go through the Tartare within the next two or three years.

Bush Block Cut – Off Stopbank Proposal (Bob Hall report 2012)

This proposal involves the construction of a 300 metre long, single stopbank situated approximately 20 - 30 metres away from and generally aligned parallel to the right bank of the Waiho River, through that area of Westland National Park locally known as the "Bush Block". The stopbank would be built to a 6 metre top width with 2:1 batter slopes and the stopbank heights would take into account the design levels of a 2,300 cumec flood event in the Waiho River as outlined in the Good Earth Matters design report dated May 2011. This would contain approximately 8,000m³ of compacted hard fill and 3500 tonnes of heavy rock armouring. The estimated cost of this option would be approximately \$203,500 GST Excl.

G. Gibb stated that the rating district is not happy with this proposal and they feel that it is not a good solution and is not worth pursuing at this stage. He advised that the rating district has done its own levels and they have found that the south bank is a few metres lower and if there is two metres of freeboard on that side they do not know how this would go over the top of the bank. W. Moen stated that in the Bob Hall report Mr Hall states that this area is the most vulnerable area to the Franz Josef Township. W. Moen explained the concept of this report to the meeting. G. Gibb stated that they are keen to get the cross section information for this area. W. Moen agreed to supply this information to the spokesperson of the rating district. G. Molloy stated that he would like to move that the proposal to build a bank on top of a bank is parked until the information is to hand or if the river changes. M. Meehan advised that a further meeting would be arranged once further information is to hand. The meeting is to be arranged for around two months' time.

It was noted that the biggest threat at the moment is the first groyne above the bridge on the north end of the river. The river is chewing in at this location.

Cr Davidson asked if everyone is in agreement with the idea of having a further meeting in a couple months' time to discuss where to from here. All present agreed.

The rate strike was discussed again. G. Molloy stated that everyone was in favour of a \$100,000 rate strike but now that the money from Civil Defence has come into the account, he suggests that the rate strike is cut down to \$50,000. M. Meehan stated that the rating district is above the prudent reserve at the moment. G. Gibb stated that he feels it would be a good idea to leave it the rate strike at \$100,000 as it would be hard to put it back up again. Cr Davidson asked for a show of hands. Everyone present was in favour of staying with \$100,000 except for G. Molloy.

G. Gibb asked what the process around decisions being made is. He stated that the committee is concerned that decisions could be made against their wishes. Cr Davidson stated that council always has the final decision but it would need to be something that was a major threat to the township for council to take this stance. G. Gibb stated that there is concern that if there was an emergency situation, that money from the rating district account could be used for this. M. Meehan advised that if there was damage to the floodwall it would need to be repaired but if the wall needed to be raised then this would be discussed with the committee. M. Meehan stated that council assets always need to be maintained but any decisions around proposed work would be discussed with the committee. Cr Davidson stated that in view of the amount of money in the rating district account and the prudent attitude of the rating district he feels that this rating district is in a good position.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.25 p.m.

Action Point

- G. Molloy requested that the total of assets be included in the financial report.
- W. Moen to distribute the cross section survey report to the committee.
- M. Meehan to arrange a meeting with NZTA to discuss the south bank.
- Arrange a meeting with rating district committee for around two months' time.
- Invite NZTA to rating district meeting each year.
- Allow one hour for this meeting each year as it run over time.
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