

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHSIDE RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL ROOMS, HOKITIKIA ON TUESDAY, 23 MARCH 2004 COMMENCING AT 7.30 P.M.

#### PRESENT

P. Oliver, N. Gallop, H. Hamilton, S. Gordon, M. Montague, R. Montague, R. Bostwick, V. Breeze, S. McCallum

#### IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council  
J. Wood, D. Davidson, P. Ewen (Councilor)  
D. Horn (CEO), and W. Moen (Staff).

#### APOLOGIES

J. Hamilton

#### BUSINESS

J. Wood opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

Wayne Moen presented the financial report for the calendar year of 2003. He explained that all amounts shown on the accounts were G.S.T Exclusive.

With no projected works for the end of this financial year, ending June 2004 the Rating District is in credit with \$5,000.

David Horn pointed out that the deficit shown on the statement was for the loan from West Coast Regional Council so there was a nil balance for capital works.

**Moved:** ***“That the financial statements for the period ending 31 December 2004 be adopted”***

*P. Oliver / M. Montague – Unanimous*

#### WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which spanned 10 years. He indicated that \$7,500 per annum should be allowed for to ensure probable ongoing maintenance requirements were met.

D. Horn outlined the provisions of the new Local Government Act, including the requirement for LTCCP (Long Term Council Community Plan) and the consequent compulsory provision for an estimated 10-year works expenditure programme. He also explained that the requirements of the Act now meant that for advanced planning purposes Annual General Meetings should be held in the latter part of the year, around September / October in order to give a clear indication of the following year's expenditure in advance.

Concern was raised about how accurately the budget needed to be given likely changes in circumstances.

D. Horn explained that the Plan could be worded to take into account any change in conditions and could be changed if required.

### **RATES 2004 / 2005**

W. Moen suggested a strike rate of \$5,000 for maintenance with any future capital works being funded through loans.

Discussion took place on whether rates needed to be increased as most ratepayers felt that no urgent works would be required in the near future.

W. Moen pointed out that if the direction of the river channel changed, additional works between the existing spurs may be required.

Most ratepayers agreed with this, but agreed to review the situation at future annual meetings.

**Moved:** ***“That the recommended rates strike suggestion be a nil rate for the 2004 / 2005 financial year.”***

*H. Hamilton / R. Montague – Unanimous*

Discussion then took place regarding the Council raising rates despite this move and the possibility of making submissions through the Annual Plan process.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Moved:** ***“That H. Hamilton be elected as spokesperson for the Rating District for the 2004 / 2005 financial year.”***

*H. Hamilton / S. Gordon – Unanimous*

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

J. Wood advised that he had the impression that there was a build up of gravel in the mouth of the Hokitika River that this had been confirmed by residents.

He asked for new cross sections be taken of the river to check these comments.

W. Moen advised that some cross sections had been programmed for other districts but the surveyors were too busy at the moment to take on any more business.

It was suggested that these be readvertised as soon as possible with the Hokitika River cross sections added to the list.

The costs of these sections would be borne by Council.

General discussion occurred around the subject of merging both banks of the Hokitika River, between the Hokitika and Kaniere Road bridges into one rating district, as suggested by J. Wood.

Most present felt that unless a general public request was forthcoming, Council should not instigate such a scheme.

H. Hamilton requested that his front boundary peg be re-established as it had been buried as a result of the recent scheme works.

Discussion agreed that P. Oliver and H. Hamilton would sort it out with the use of Westland District Council's G.P.S. system.

W. Moen suggested that a signed agreement by property owners for the retention of permanent access rights be initiated as the access road cuts across privately owned land.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.33 pm.