

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
KARAMEA RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE KARAMEA FIRE STATION
ON 23 OCTOBER 2018, COMMENCING AT 1.40 PM.

PRESENT

B. Jones, G. Volckman, M. Watt, B. Langford, P. McClintock, P. Langford, J. Lowe, R. Anderson, P. Gibson, D. Smith

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
T. Archer, N. Clementson (Councillors)
R. Beal, P. Birchfield, J. Ellis, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

R. Sampson

G. Volckman / P. Langford - Carried

BUSINESS

Cr Clementson 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 24 October 2017, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.***

B. Langford / B. Jones - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

P. Birchfield advised that the floodgate outlet was to be checked. She agreed to follow up on this.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Cr Clementson took this report as read. The opening balance was \$101,565.89 and the closing balance is \$150,900.77.

Agreed Level of Service

Cr Archer advised that Audit NZ have requested that agreed levels of service are discussed at each rating district meeting. He advised that agreed levels of service relate to the infrastructure of the assets in the rating district. He stated that this has been an outcome of the Edgecumbe disaster and is about making sure the rating district is comfortable with the level of service they are receiving. P. Birchfield advised that the integrity of the stopbank is part of the agreed level of service and will be discussed later in the meeting. Cr Archer spoke of affordability to rating districts is a huge issue for rating districts.

Willow Tree Loss

Cr Clementson introduced J. Ellis to the meeting. J. Ellis advised that his background is in River Engineering. He stated that Karamea has very large areas covered in willow and there are a wide variety of willows in this area. J. Ellis spoke of the Large Willow Aphid which was

found in NZ in 2013 and is now well established NZ wide. He advised that in the North Island this aphid is killing willows. J. Ellis stated that during autumn and winter the trunk and limbs will turn black and drip honey dew. He stated that bees and wasps are attracted to this honey dew and the aphid is now killing willows. J. Ellis spoke of the root system on willow trees and the protection the willow trees provide. He advised that alternative species are being looked for to replace willows. These are likely to be natives as most scientist now believe that the willows are now nearing the end of their lives.

J. Ellis advised that Hon Shane Jones, Regional Development Minister, has set up an initiative to plant one billion trees over the next 10 years. Government funding is available to communities via the Provincial Growth Fund. J. Ellis advised that the trees to be replanted are likely to be a combination of exotics and native trees. He advised if this work is started soon then what happened during the Edgumbe flood could possibly be avoided here as dead willows caused added damage during this flood event. J. Ellis answered questions and offered additional information on the history of willows.

R. Beal stated that further information will be forthcoming via the Weedbusters newsletter and once the annual meetings have been held throughout the region, depending on interest, then a combined application will be made to this fund. It was agreed that the Karamea rating district would like to be a part of this initiative.

Secondary Defenses

R. Beal advised that he and the Council engineers visited Kaikoura recently to view earthquake damage. He stated that their stopbanks are similar to Karamea and are using vegetation in front and behind stopbanks. This is designed to minimise the effect of the river breaking through. J. Ellis explained this in detail.

WORKS REPORT

P. Birchfield spoke to this report. She advised that a total of \$2,500 worth of work was carried out during the reporting period. P. Birchfield reported that this work included the placing of rock at the Granite Creek ford. P. Birchfield outlined the future works at Miedema's Corner, and vegetation removal and spraying of willows at Granite Creek. She advised that the total cost of maintenance works is \$70,000 as the \$40,000 for the upgrade of the 250m length of stopbank would not be enough. P. Birchfield spoke of the upgrade of stopbanks and survey work completed by M. Watts, she advised this work will cost around \$68,000. P. Birchfield advised that it would be more cost effective to do 200 metres each year. Discussion took place regarding the dumping of materials on stopbanks. P. Birchfield answered questions from various speakers. P. Birchfield advised that the total cost of proposed work is now \$94,000 approximately.

Inclusion of private works: Oparara & Blue Duck Creek

Inclusion of private works at Oparara and Blue Duck Creek was discussed. P. Birchfield advised that the inclusion of these works could result in changes to the current rating district classifications. R. Beal advised that Council's Corporate Services Manager and Engineer could do some modelling as a starting point at no cost to the rating district. Extensive discussion took place and it was agreed the Oparara could be included in the capital works. It was agreed that rating classification work would be investigated for the Blue Duck Creek rock protection structures. P. Birchfield advised that the Oparara does have an existing resource consent in place along with a report on the effectiveness of the works in place. Cr Clementson advised that the inclusion of these private works into the rating district will have a financial impact on the rating district. It was agreed that Council staff will progress with the rating classification work, and that the three sites including the south side of the Karamea River will be assessed and checked by engineering staff, and a special meeting will then be held. Discussion took place on the timeframe for this work. R. Beal advised that the rating classification information could be supplied before Christmas and if this is favourable a special meeting will be held after Christmas.

RATES 2019 / 2020

Cr Clementson advised that the proposed rate strike is \$50,000. It was noted that the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2019 / 2020 financial year is likely to be \$142,600. Discussion took place as it was felt that there might be a need to increase the rate strike.

R. Beal advised that there is projected works in place for the rating district for every second year. He stated that money from the rate strike would be used for this work but if the rating district wants this work done faster more money would be required. R. Beal advised that the concept is to pay in \$100,000 over two years and to spend approximately \$70,000. It was agreed that the rate strike would remain at \$50,000.

Moved: ***"That the rate strike for the Karamea Rating District remains at \$50,000 for the 2019/ 2020 financial year."***

P. McClintock / P. Langford – Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

T. Jellyman read out the names of the current committee and asked if anyone would like to come off or go on to the committee.

Moved: ***"That the present committee:
Paul McClintock, Peter Langford, Darryl Simkin, Brian Jones,
Andrew Bruning, and Bevan Langford be the committee for the
2018 / 2019 financial year."***

G. Volckman / B. Jones - Carried

Moved: ***"That B. Langford is appointed as the spokesperson for the 2018 /
2019 financial year."***

G. Volckman / B. Jones - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussion took place on a possible loan options. It was agreed that the Council's Corporate Services Manager would be asked to provide information to the rating district.

B. Jones advised that the outlet to the Otumahana Estuary is blocked off completely and all of the water is flowing out behind the campground. He expressed concern that this could cause long term problems for the area. Cr Archer advised that a resource consent would be required for this work and in the past DoC have been opposed to this.

A speaker expressed concern regarding the second bridge near Granite Creek. He stated that he is concerned about water inundation on his property during a flood event. P. Birchfield advised that this area is not included in the asset management plan. It was noted that this area is the responsibility of Buller District Council. There has been some improvement since willows were cleared. Cr Archer provided background information on this area and advised that no work can be done as this area is protected.

Cr Clementson thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.18 p.m.

Action Point

- Corporate Services Manager to work through rating classifications for inclusion of private works for Oparara and Blue Duck Creek.
- Engineering staff to inspect Oparara and Blue Duck Creek.
- Arrange a special meeting once the above has been completed.
- Corporate Services Manager to work through loan options and figures for a possible loan of approximately \$200,000.
- P. Birchfield to follow up with Westreef regarding the floodgate.
- P. Birchfield to inspect area around the second bridge at Granite Creek

Council Infrastructure Insurance Details

Information provided by R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager)

Council exited LAPP in 2011 following the Canterbury earthquakes, as it was going to be unaffordable to continue.

We then established a designated Catastrophe Fund, which has grown to \$1M.

As from 1/11/17 WCRC Infrastructure is covered under the AON Lloyds scheme. We are in a grouping of South Island Councils (Nelson, Tasman, Buller, Grey, Westland, WCRC, Queenstown Lakes, Environment Southland) with total programme cover of (now) \$300M.

WCRC carries cover of \$35M and the annual premium is paid for from interest earned on the \$1M Catastrophe Fund. The excess is \$250,000.

See details of actual cover below taken from the actual Policy wording: The infrastructure cover includes (quoting direct from Policy).

“Materials damage natural catastrophe insurance” including:

Earthquake, Natural landslip, Flood, Tsunami, Tornado, Windstorm, Volcanic eruption, Hydrothermal and geothermal activity, Subterranean Fire, And Business Interruption resulting from them.