

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF KOWHITIRANGI RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE KOWHITIRANGI HALL, KOWHITIRANGI ON FRIDAY, 5 MAY 2000 COMMENCING AT 1.00 P.M.

PRESENT

M. Cagney, R. Cagney, W. Oats, J. Michell, S. Anderson, J. Paterson, B. Godfrey, R. Love, W. Diedrichs, M. Paterson, P. Cook, D. Amberger, T. Sheridan, K. Nolan, G. Hobi, W. Von Ah, B. Parker, T. Taft, (one illegible), C. Harris & S. Keenan.

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
B. Duckett & D. Davidson (Councillors)
R. Lowe & W. Moen (Staff)

APOLOGIES

J. Clayton & T. Day (West Coast Regional Council)
D. Burden, J. Kalin, W. Godfrey, P. McLennan, A. Godfrey & L. Smith.

BUSINESS

B. Duckett opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

Moved: ***"That the minutes of the previous Annual General meeting held on 30 April 1999, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting."***
M. Paterson/C. Harris - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

W. Moen pointed out that the reference to LAPP fund has been removed from the Asset Management Plan and that a clause allowing for an annual adjustment to be made on the rate strike rather than triennially had been also added to the Asset Management Plan as directed from the previous meeting.

S. Keenan asked when the final LAPP payment was due.

R. Lowe pointed out that the exit from LAPP Scheme required 12 month's notice. The final instalment was due in June 2000.

Both S. Keenan and G. Monk felt that the LAPP Fund took premiums under false pretences and asked if there was any chance of a refund.

R. Lowe felt that no refund was possible.

He also outlined the past Karamea area LAPP "payout" and the current Poerua River situation. He also explained that it appeared that LAPP would not pay out unless substantial damage had occurred to works within the Asset Management Plan.

C. Harris stated that Central Government did not honour the 60% subsidy promise that instigated the scheme.

B. Duckett felt that the Council had been told all the facts when discussing the initial LAPP proposals.

C. Harris felt that the LAPP Fund was using the rural sector to "prop-up" the urban areas.

D. Davidson felt that the LAPP Fund should be approached for a reduction in freeboard of the scheme.

R. Lowe pointed out that until damage occurred, the LAPP Fund would not be interested in paying anything out.

FINANCIAL MINUTES

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the 1998/1999 financial year and the 6 month transitional period from 1 July 1999 to 31 December 1999.

Moved: ***"That the Financial Reports for both the 1998/1999 financial year and the six monthly transitional period ending 31 December 1999 be adopted."***

J. Paterson/T. Taft - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moved: ***"That S. Keenan be re-elected as Chairperson for the 2000/2001 financial year."***

J. Paterson/C. Harris – Carried

Moved: ***"That the committee be re-elected for the 2000/2001 financial year"***.

K. Nolan/T. Sheridan – Carried

RATES 2000/2001

W. Moen outlined the current works estimate and others spoke on the Asset Management Plan requirements.

Speakers included – R. Lowe, S. Keenan and C. Harris.

Moved: ***"That the rates strike for the 2000/2001 financial year be set at \$10,000 + GST."***

S. Keenan/J. Patterson – Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

W. Moen introduced and read a letter from B. Godfrey dated 5 May 2000 outlining his concerns over a perceived access problem along the front of his property adjacent to the outlet of Diedrichs Creek. He also felt that his concerns had not been addressed by the Committee.

S. Keenan stated that he had not been aware of any access problem. The meeting generally felt that if alternative access was available it should be utilised.

Moved: ***"That a letter of apology from the Committee be sent to B. Godfrey."***
 C. Harris/T. Taft – Carried

S. Keenan outlined the Committee's concerns and apparent anomalies within the current classification.

W. Moen outlined the Committee's proposals on the overhead projector explaining the "A" class situation along the entire frontage of the scheme.

W. Moen to carry out a re-classification and report back to the Committee in July 2000 if possible.

Discussion ensued on the recent contract carried out by Colin Thompson.

R. Cagney and C. Haris felt that it was a good job.

R. Cagney queried the rock tallies.

W. Moen pointed out the costs involved of employing a tallyman would be expensive. He outlined the use of portable scales to spot check trucks of contractors.

B. Parker pointed out that the contracts specify lowest or any other tender were not necessarily accepted and asked if the Committee could decide.

R. Lowe explained that they could not. He also stated the danger of not accepting the lower tender.

S. Keenan felt that larger jobs should require larger equipment and more experience.

B. Parker sought advice on the grading of rock.

R. Lowe explained that some small rock was required to "lock in" the large rock.

W. Moen outlined his experience and told the ratepayers he was pleased with the quality and quantity of rockwork at the conclusion of the contract. He felt that the Rating District had received value for money.

G. Monk asked R. Lowe if the employment of Canterbury Contractors on possum control was working out.

R. Lowe explained that contract had to be more contestable through the Animal Health Board and all work had to be tendered out. An open tender procedure was essential and open to all contractors whether West Coast based, or not.

It was also pointed out that the successful lowest tenderer was a LATE of Canterbury Regional Council.

R. Lowe also stated that all jobs are monitored by the West Coast Regional Council and if the monitored works are not up to the required standard, the work will be carried out again until the standards are met. No contractor gets paid until the job is completed to the satisfaction of the Council.

J. Paterson asked if monitoring was occurring.

R. Lowe answered in the affirmative.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 2.20 p.m.

W. Moen
Senior Engineering Officer