

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LOWER WAIHO RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE MUELLER COMPLEX, FRANZ JOSEF ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2013, COMMENCING AT 1.25 PM.

#### PRESENT

C. Brooks, L. Richards, P. Dennehy, R. Molloy, L. Molloy, T. Bruning, N. Frendrup, C. Frendrup, K. Frendrup, L. Frendrup (Franz Dairies), P. Halford, R. Richards

#### IN ATTENDANCE

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

#### APOLOGIES

R. Quaife

#### BUSINESS

D. Davidson opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He apologised for the late start to today's meeting and stated that next year an hour will be allowed for the Franz Josef meeting which run over time today.

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."*

*T. Bruning / C. Brooks - Carried*

#### MATTERS ARISING

M. Meehan advised that at last year's meeting he was asked to investigate what happens to the funds in the Canavans Knob rating district account. He advised that Council needs to look at the asset and discuss with the community and NZTA as to how the asset would be managed in the future. M. Meehan advised that there is currently about \$30,000 in this account. M. Meehan stated that the most likely scenario could be that the rating district would be completely dissolved and NZTA would be asked to look after this asset as per its design and the money would be re-distributed back to those ratepayers who paid into the Canavan's Knob rating district. This depends entirely on NZTA and the community as to the future management of this asset.

M. Meehan stated that at last year's meeting he was asked to report back to the rating district on loan options for proposed capital works. He advised that this information is included in the proposed works proposal and he has a spread sheet available so that he can work this out on the spot.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2013. He advised that the opening was just over \$17,000. He advised that the expenditure for the financial year was just over \$41,000. The closing balance is just under \$27,000.

## **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 just over \$32,000 worth of works was carried out during the reporting period.

W. Moen reported that he carried out an inspection on 18 July 2013. He stated that this inspection highlighted works required at Milton and Others stopbank, he advised that this work has just been completed. The rubbish dump bank was also topped up at this time. W. Moen suggested that an additional \$10,000 should be allowed for unforeseen maintenance over the coming year. He stated that the total amount for the recent work and the unforeseen maintenance equates to \$79,000. W. Moen advised that this figure does not include the proposed raising of the Rubbish Dump stopbank as this would be capital work. W. Moen stated that he is very happy with the workmanship for the job at Milton & Others stopbank.

It was agreed that the rate strike would be discussed once the proposed upgrade of the Rubbish Dump stopbank has been discussed.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

T. Jellyman read out the names of the present committee. Cr Davidson asked if anyone has left the area or if anyone present would like to come onto the committee. T. Bruning advised that he would be stepping down from the committee and as spokesperson as he is moving away.

**Moved:** *"That the present committee be all those present namely:*

*Lee Frendrup  
Neil Frendrup  
Lorraine Richards  
Robin Richards  
Chris Brooks  
Richard Molloy  
Peter Halford for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."*

Discussion took place on a replacement spokesperson committee. C. Brooks was nominated for this. R. Molloy was then nominated. M. Meehan advised that the role of the spokesperson is to liaise with W. Moen and the rating district committee and it needs to be someone who is on the ground and can respond to potential emergency works. M. Meehan advised that it is also important to have a good deputy spokesperson as well. L. Richards stated that it is very important that someone is on hand for this position. Cr Davidson asked for a show of hands for the voting. The result was 6 / 4 in favour of R. Molloy.

**Moved:** *"That R. Molloy is elected as the spokesperson for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."*

*R. Richards / L. Richards – Carried*

**Moved:** *"That Robin Richards be elected as the deputy spokesperson for the 2013 / 2014 financial year."*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

L. Richards asked why the rating district wasn't given more notice for today's meeting. She stated that she and her husband only received their letter last night. M. Meehan responded that normally there is two weeks' notice given but this time it was a little shorter as the meetings were brought forward by a month in view of the local body elections being held in October. M. Meehan advised that at least two weeks' notice would be given for future meetings.

## RUBBISH DUMP STOPBANK UPGRADE

W. Moen advised that at last year's meeting the rating district requested that the survey work and design work is carried out so that accurate costings can be presented to this year's meeting. W. Moen advised that he has now done this work. The design is that the stopbank would be built up to a 6 metre top width with 2:1 batter slopes and stopbank heights would reflect the design levels of a 2,700 cumec flood event in the Waiho River as outlined in the Good Earth Matters design report from July 2008. This equates to an approximate average of 1.50 metres in height over the full length of 836 metres. The upgraded stopbank would be continuously rock armoured up to the new full height. This alignment would contain approximately 20,500m<sup>3</sup> of compacted hardfill and 5,000 tonnes of rock. The estimated cost would be around \$257,500 (GST Excl).

M. Meehan advised that meeting that they would require a loan for this capital work but a competitive tender price may bring the price down. He advised that a loan on \$257,000 would be approximately \$22,000 per year over 20 years. This would be in addition to the maintenance rate.

A speaker advised that at a recent meeting at the river bank, N. Frendrup had stated that there is good rock to be had in the Moraine loop. M. Meehan asked N. Frendrup if there is rock on his private land that could be used for this work. N. Frendrup confirmed this and stated that he would sell rock if the correct licences were applied for. It was noted that the rock in the DoC estate is closer and N. Frendrup wonders why this cannot be used. M. Meehan advised that there are two options for getting rock, one is getting rock from DoC and the other is the rock on N. Frendrup's property. It was agreed that it would be much cheaper for the rating district to source rock locally rather than Whataroa as the cost of carting this rock is high. M. Meehan advised that he would liaise with DoC regarding access to this area. M. Meehan advised that getting rock from the National Park may take longer than getting the rock from N. Frendrup. M. Meehan stated that after viewing the stopbank today it seems that the raising of the stopbank is becoming more and more urgent. A speaker stated that an option was to use a dozer to redirect the river. W. Moen stated that the use of a dozer in the Waiho River has been discussed many times over the years. W. Moen stated that this would be a waste of time as there is no way this would work for the Waiho River. He stated that the next fresh would wash the work away. M. Meehan advised that the Franz Josef Rating District is interested in a cut being made through the Moraine loop and get rock at the same time. M. Meehan advised that this could be investigated but warned that DoC may not like this idea.

W. Moen stated that the raising of the Rubbish Bank stopbank is the number one priority for the rating district. He stated that it has already blown out once this year and looking at it today when there is only minor fresh in the river, this is very concerning. W. Moen advised that over the last nine months over half a million cubic metres of gravel has been deposited onto the riverbed with the riverbed building up all the time and this is reducing the potential of the stopbank all the time. W. Moen confirmed to R. Richards that the bank would be raised by 1.5 metres. A speaker stated that he does not want rock to come from Whataroa anymore as it is too expensive. W. Moen stated that they have been looking for a local rock source for years and that once the quarry at the Tartare was closed by DoC then Whataroa has been the only option. It was agreed that local rock sources would be sought as soon as possible. M. Meehan advised that the quickest way to resolve the risk of the bank overtopping is to be able to move quickly to get this stop bank job done. He stated that if the rock from N. Frendrup's property could be used then this would be ideal. M. Meehan stated that a decision on getting local rock from DoC could take up to a year but the rock on private land would be by far the easiest option. W. Moen asked N. Frendrup is he is prepared to sell rock and if there would be 5,000 tonne of rock available. N. Frendrup was in agreement with this. R. Richards commented that the stopbank was built in 1983 and has only been topped up once. Extensive discussion took place on the pros and cons of the stopbank upgrade. It was agreed that a further meeting would be arranged for a month's time and a revised price would be presented at this meeting which will include the use of rock from N. Frendrup's rock. L. Richards stated that this needs to be done urgently and before it is too late.

**Moved:** *"That the rating district proceed with the upgrade of the Rubbish Bank Stopbank to 1.5 metres, as soon as possible and at the best possible price"*

Cr Davidson asked for a show of hands. The voting was 6 / 4 in favour of the upgrade. W. Moen advised that he will sort out the rock source, then get a contract out and then discuss the tender prices with the spokesperson so that work can commence as soon as possible. M. Meehan advised the rock at N. Frendrup's property will be assessed in a couple of days' time.

M. Meehan advised that there is also another proposal that W. Moen has been working on which is to join the banks with compacted gravel or fully rocking it. W. Moen has put together some prices for this work. M. Meehan stated that this job could be done at the same time at the stopbank upgrade and a tender price could be received at the same time as the tender is put out for the stopbank upgrade.

He stated that this would be under the proviso that the committee looks at the prices received and only proceeds if the price is acceptable. W. Moen stated that this could be tagged onto the current proposed works. W. Moen stated that the tender prices are very competitive at the moment and he is currently getting prices that he was getting in the 1970's. He stated it is a good time to do works at the moment. M. Meehan advised that he would bring the information on the rock in the Canavan's Knob area to the meeting next month.

#### **RATES 2013 / 2014**

Cr Davidson advised that the recommended rate strike is \$75,000. M. Meehan advised that the rate strike has been \$100,000 in the past, it was taken back to \$50,000 and now the account will be in deficit at the start of the 2014 / 2015 year. This is why it is recommended that the rate strike is increased to \$75,000 for the coming financial year. M. Meehan stated that there would also be the loan should the proposed stopbank upgrade go ahead. He stated that with a loan as well this would bring the rate strike to around \$100,000 but this price is dependent on the tender prices for the proposed works.

W. Moen thanked T. Bruning for the work that he has done over the years as spokesperson for the rating district. W. Moen stated that he will miss T. Bruning's input but he looks forward to working with R. Molloy.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

#### **ACTION POINT:**

- Proceed with raising Rubbish Dump Stopbank.
- Receive tenders for the joining of the Rubbish Dump and Milton and Others Stopbanks and proceed if the committee approves the price.
- Ensure that the rating district is given at least two weeks' notice for annual meeting.
- M. Meehan to liaise with DoC regarding access rock source.
- M. Meehan to check quarry in the Canvans Knob area.