

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE**  
**LOWER WAIHO RATING DISTRICT**  
**HELD AT THE MUELLER COMPLEX, FRANZ JOSEF**  
**ON 21 OCTOBER 2015, COMMENCING AT 11.03 AM.**

**PRESENT**

C. Brooks, L. Richards, R. Molloy, L. Molloy, R. Richards, N. L. K & D. Frendrup, P. Halford

**IN ATTENDANCE**

West Coast Regional Council  
P, McDonnell (Councillor), S. Challenger (Councillor)  
M. Meehan, W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

**APOLOGIES**

**BUSINESS**

Cr Challenger 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 14 November 2014, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

*R. Richards / R. Molloy - Carried*

**MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2015. He advised that the opening was just -\$13,702.14 (in deficit) and the closing balance is \$13,501.09. M. Meehan advised there has been a small amount of maintenance costs incurred. M. Meehan advised that there is \$10,000 allowed for minor maintenance works. The closing balance is \$13,702.14.

**WORKS REPORT**

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period; 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015. He reported that \$9,625 worth of works was carried out during the reporting period.

R. Molloy stated that he did not authorise the spending of \$60,000+, he stated that he does not have the authority to authorise works. R. Molloy stated that this work is as a result of the undermining of the stopbank at Milton and Others stopbank and this work is unavoidable. R. Molloy stated that his role as spokesperson is to liaise with council staff prior to work being undertaken. Cr Challenger stated that it is important that these schemes are maintained as if maintenance is not carried out it will cost the rating district in the long term.

W. Moen reported that he carried out an inspection in August 2015 and \$37,000 worth of works were identified, this includes \$10,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

## **RATES 2016 / 2017**

Cr Challenger advised that the recommended rate strike is \$84,000. M. Meehan advised that this amount includes the loan that the rating district is paying off. He advised that the prudent reserve for this rating district is \$120,000. M. Meehan advised that at the start of the 2016 / 17 financial year the balance in the rating district account is likely to be \$63,000. He advised that it would be good to build the account up to the prudent reserve figure. It was agreed that the rate strike would be \$84,000.

L. Richards asked what happens if someone sells their farm before the loan is paid off. M. Meehan responded that the buyer would continue to pay the rates that the seller is paying, the rates are linked to the property not the person.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

T. Jellyman read out the names of the present committee. Cr Challenger asked if anyone has left the area of if anyone present would like to come onto the committee.

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

***Lee Frendrup  
Neil Frendrup  
Lorraine Richards  
Robin Richards  
Chris Brooks  
Richard Molloy  
Peter Halford  
John Stone  
Peter Dennehy  
Dean Frendrup  
K. Frendrup or the 2015 / 2016 financial year."***

Discussion took place on the election of spokesperson. R. Molloy stated that he would be prepared to stand again. He stated there is no personal gain involved for him but he would like back up from councillors on this matter. L. Molloy stated that R. Molloy does not do anything without consulting R. Richards. M. Meehan stated that he has found R. Molloy to be very good in this role. M. Meehan stated that ultimately all decisions are made by council but with regard to the spokesperson role, it is important to have someone who is on the ground, who checks areas of concern after flood events and informs council of what is happening. M. Meehan stated that the comments made about this role were made by someone who is not a ratepayer in this rating district.

**Moved:**        ***"That R. Molloy is elected as the spokesperson for the 2015 / 2016 financial year."***

*L. Richards / P. Halford – Carried*

**Moved:**        ***"That Robin Richards be elected as the deputy spokesperson for the 2015 / 2016 financial year."***

*L. Richards / P. Halford – Carried*

## **Cross Section Report**

W. Moen stated that the Waiho River cross sections were resurveyed in January 2015. He stated that gravel has been moving down through the system with areas building up and areas which are cutting down. His main concern is a large slug of gravel around the moraine area which has a huge influence on the pattern of the river in this area. This will place pressure on the Milton

and Others stopbank in subsequent years. W. Moen stated that a careful eye will be kept on this area. He answered questions from the meeting.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

R. Richards stated that it is very important to keep the back channel of the Waiho River clear, as this is good back up during a flood event.

R. Richards asked if there has been any progress with the rock on the Frendrup land. M. Meehan responded that the rock that G. Condon has pointed out is within the permit area that council has but the rock on N. Frendrup's land has not been looked at yet. N. Frendrup confirmed that the rock is on his land and would be accessible via the riverbed. M. Meehan asked N. Frendrup if this rock could be used for the current job that is being done. M. Meehan advised that all land that is administered by DoC south of Whataroa falls in the world heritage area irrespective of whether or not it is riverbed or stewardship or rough grazing land. He stated that the Prime Minister announced on TV that there would be no mining on world heritage areas and this had immediate effect of any permits being granted south of Whataroa. M. Meehan advised that council has had to work with Hon Simon Bridges to renew its existing permit at the Okuru quarry. The Minister has stated that they will not be granting any new permits. M. Meehan stated that if the rock source is on private land then there shouldn't be any issues. He stated that the Ministry considers quarrying to be mining and anything that a minerals permit is required for, then this is considered mining. Council has inquired whether this impacts on gravel takes, and was advised that permits for gravel takes on riverbeds are not required. Discussion took place. M. Meehan advised local DoC staff have been very good to work with and the directive regarding quarrying and mining has come from Wellington.

A speaker asked if there was a plan for the extension to the Rubbish Dump bank. W. Moen stated that there is a resource consent in place to allow for a series of rock spurs to be put in should the river change course. R. Richards stated that if rock is taken from the Frendrup property then some of this rock should be used to protect their property. R. Molloy stated that he was in the helicopter with council staff when this rock was inspected, and DoC GPS'd this area. M. Meehan advised that council has a resource consent on behalf of the rating district to get rock from the groynes in the river and there is also a consented area that may be expanded out to include the whole riverbed so that these floaters can be retrieved. M. Meehan advised that if someone from the rating district wants to get rock then they can work under this resource consent.

L. Richards asked what is happening with money the money that is in the Canavans Knob rating district account. It was noted that this rating district has been in abeyance for several years now. M. Meehan advised that there is around \$25,000 in this account. He advised that council is waiting to see what happens with the Franz Josef Working Group as there could be changes to rating districts in the future. M. Meehan advised that some of the people that were in the Canavans Knob rating district are now in this rating district and some are not in a rating district. M. Meehan advised if there was a desire from the community then council would consider releasing these funds.

M. Meehan advised that a public meeting was held and from this meeting, eight representatives were elected from the community to form the working group. He stated that is a diverse group with members of the business community, local community, representatives from NZTA, DoC, Westland District Council and himself representing the regional council. M. Meehan explained the function of the working group and advised that the representatives were elected by the community. He stated that the river is one out of about 12 strands of work that the working group is looking at. This council and NZTA are the joint leaders on this. M. Meehan stated that there have only been two meetings held to date. M. Meehan advised that he feels it is timely that a report was taken to council to ascertain where to from here with the Canavans Knob rating district. M. Meehan advised that the money would be distributed back to the people that were in the Canavans Knob rating district originally and the rating district would then be disbanded. M.

Meehan advised that the reason Canavans Knob was put into abeyance was because NZTA had put the stopbank along the road. He stated that NZTA are committed to keeping the road open and maintaining the road.

A speaker asked if Rayward Aviation Holdings Ltd is in this rating district. This was confirmed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.50 a.m.

**ACTION POINT:**

- M. Meehan to present an options report to Council on the disbanding of the Canavans Knob rating district.