

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE**  
**NELSON CREEK RATING DISTRICT**  
**HELD AT THE NGAHERE FIRE STATION**  
**ON WEDNESDAY, 3 APRIL 2002 COMMENCING AT 5.00 P.M.**

**PRESENT**

G. Hill, M. Savage, G. Foster, C. Fayen.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

West Coast Regional Council

D. Shannahan, P. Ewen (Councilors)

R. Lowe, W. Moen (Staff)

**APOLOGIES**

G. Gibson, J. Clayton, T. Hill, T. Kendrick.

**BUSINESS**

D. Shannahan opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

**Moved:**            ***“That the minutes of the previous Annual General meeting held on 3 April 2001, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.”***

*G. Hill / G. Foster – Carried.*

**MATTERS ARISING**

W. Moen outlined the developments within the LAPP Fund and pointed out that given the accumulating financial contributions from many local authorities, the LAPP premiums were now reducing

It was felt that the scheme should remain in the scheme in the interim.

W. Moen explained that other rating districts had enquired about seeking alternative insurance. Upon checking alternative coverage with other possible companies it had been found that no other comparable cost - effective cover existed.

**FINANCIAL MINUTES**

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the 2001 financial year.

**Moved:**            ***“That the Financial Report for the 2001 financial year be adopted.”***

*G. Hill / G. Foster – Carried Unanimously.*

**ELECTION OF COMMITTEE / SPOKESPERSON**

**Moved:**            ***“That G. Hill be re-elected as Chairperson of the Rating District for The 2002 / 2003 financial year.”***

*G. Foster / G. Fayen – Carried.*

**RATES 2002 / 2003**

W Moen outlined the balance of the rating account and also pointed out the liabilities under the Asset Management Plan.

**Moved:**            ***“That a rate of \$15,000 + GST be struck for the 2002 / 2003 financial year”***

*G. Hill / G. Foster – Carried Unanimously.*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

D. Shannahan opened discussion on the future of the Council's quarrying operations and asked R. Lowe to outline the situation.

R. Lowe explained that traditionally, the operation of the Council's quarries was on a break – even basis, not profit generated. He outlined that in the past 2 years, rock sales had not been up to the level of previous years and that a deficit had occurred. He also explained that it was essential to guarantee all ratepayers on the West Coast, a ready supply of rock and which was available on a “level playing field” basis to all contractors.

D. Shannahan suggested that if the Council did not operate quarries, monopolies could develop which may see the eventual substantial rise in rock prices. Some comparable figures in other areas were as high as \$30 per tonne, when operated on a commercial basis.

P. Ewen explained that Council had to look at the “bigger picture” and should look at the “long – term” approach to rock supply. He also felt that rock price increases were inevitable to supply rock on the floor at all times.

T. Kendrick's previous meeting's comments on the apparent lack of rock on the quarry floor at Kiwi Quarry at crucial times had been noted and acted on. A more systematic quarry blasting system appeared to be an improvement on rock supplies.

G. Hill felt that the Council had no option, but to continue with quarrying to guarantee a steady, reliable source of rock for river protection works.

W. Moen outlined the possible reclassification of the Nelson Creek Rating District and indicated that the revised classification would be ratified by Council at its July 2002 meeting in time for the 2002 / 2003 rates strike.

W. Moen also explained that the whole scheme would be re-examined and advertised for submissions before being formally adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.45pm

W. Moen  
Senior Engineering Officer