

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
PUNAKAIKI RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE DOC OFFICES, PUNAKAIKI
ON TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2006, COMMENCING AT 7.15PM.

PRESENT

J. Ashby, D. Wilkins, N. Wilkins, A. Beynon, G. Beynon, G. Freeman, S. Griffin (Buller District Council), I. Ryder, K. Wylis, M. Keating, F. Keating, C. Findlay.

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
J. Clayton, P. Ewen
S. Moran, W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

M. Fitzgibbon

BUSINESS

J. Clayton opened the meeting and welcomed those present to the inaugural meeting. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

FINANCIAL MINUTES

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2006. The rating district loan is in credit by \$6,661.07 due to the later date the loan was struck.

Moved: *“That the financial report for the 2005 / 2006 year be adopted”.*
J. Ashby / G. Beynon - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the works report, which covered the 12-month period; 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

He explained, in detail, how all costs had been apportioned and supplied a detailed breakdown of all costs.

He also explained that the Council had taken out a loan, on behalf of the Rating District, for \$365,000 to cover the ratepayers' share.

He pointed out that an inspection had been carried out on 30 August 2006 and noted in the report that no immediate works had been identified.

He also explained that given the hostile environment, ongoing maintenance would be required, this being dependent on the amount of damage incurred.

He outlined the works that had been carried out during the period and outlined a proposed allowance of \$15,000 maintenance expenditure for the following 2006 / 2007 year.

J. Clayton asked if an allowance of \$15,000 was adequate, given the lack of rock in the area.

Moved: ***“That the Works Report covering the 2005 / 2006 financial year be adopted and the 2006 / 2007 works proposals be approved.”***
G. Beynon / N. Wilkins - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

W. Moen explained the purpose of a committee for the rating district and the purpose of having a Chairperson (Spokesperson.)

Moved: ***“That the committee for 2006 / 2007 consist of J. Ashby, N. Wilkins, G. Beynon, A. Beynon, I. Ryder and F. Keating. J. Ashby be elected as Chairperson for the 2006 / 2007 financial year.”***
N. Wilkins / G. Beynon - Carried

RATES 2007 / 2008

S. Moran and W. Moen explained the purpose of having a rating strike in place and the example of the Taramakau Rating District was explained.

S. Moran noted that the recommendation from WCRC was for all rating districts to have sufficient reserve funds in their rating account for emergency works if necessary.

General discussion ensued on future rate strikes.

J. Clayton reiterated that there has been no special treatment for the Buller District Council rate component.

N. Wilkins sought information on the balance of the old maintenance rate previously collected by the Buller District Council for the ongoing maintenance of the “sacrificial bund”.

S. Griffin agreed to check the amount remaining in the old maintenance account with a view to pass in on for future wall maintenance.

Moved: ***“That the suggested rate strike recommendation to Council for the 2007 / 2008 financial Year be \$15,000 + G.S.T.”***
E. Ryder / G. Beynon - Carried
(Against - M. Keating)

GENERAL BUSINESS

Concern was expressed regarding the deterioration of some of the rock on the sea wall, it was felt that this rock might be of poor quality.

W. Moen pointed out that the rock had been inspected and it appeared to be sound at the time although it was observed that some of the rock appeared to have been heated. The price would have been almost double if the rock had been sourced from other distant sources.

He also explained that some of rock would have to be progressively replaced if the structural integrity of the wall was compromised in the future.

A ratepayer asked if all residents equally shared the maintenance rate, or if those closer to the sea would pay more.

W. Moen explained the logic of the differential rating system, whereby individual landowners paid a varying proportion of the rate depending on the location of their property in relation to the seawall.

General discussion took place regarding the resource consent for the sea wall.

S. Griffin explained that this was a retrospective resource consent granted under an emergency situation.

He stated that there had been one objection from DOC as they had concerns about beach access and loss of vegetation.

He also noted that the Buller District Council had worked through these issues and the application was now on hold subject to the receiving of the NIWA Report. It was pointed out that the Buller District Council and DOC would work with local residents in order to landscape and beautify the inside of the sea wall

A letter was tabled from M. Fitzgibbon outlining a proposal that Dickinson Parade be made one way, with no stopping allowed and a speed limit of 10km per hour. It was noted that this matter would need to go through the consent process and was a matter for the District Council.

Judder bars were mentioned as an option.

S. Griffin agreed to bring options to the committee regarding this issue.

W. Moen explained the likelihood of rating property valuation increasing now that the sea wall was in place.

He used the Okuru situation as an example and advised that property values had more than doubled there as a result of a seawall construction.

P. Ewen reported that sponsorship from Honda might be available for landscaping. S. Moran stated this is allocated for this year but there may be an opportunity for next year. S. Moran to follow this up.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Wayne Moen
River Engineer
26 November 2006