

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
WANGANUI RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE HARIHARI COMMUNITY CENTRE, HARI HARI
ON WEDNESDAY, 4 APRIL 2001 COMMENCING AT 8.00 P.M.

PRESENT

R. Berry, P. Denham, N. Adamson, J. Stewart, B. McGrath, N. Adamson, B. Thomson, R. Cunniffe, L. Molloy, G. Muir, R. Hodgkinson, A. Harris, J. Harris

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
B. Duckett (Councillor)
R. Lowe & W. Moen (Staff)

APOLOGIES

M. Molloy, T. Denham, A. Campbell, E. McIntosh, M. McGrath J. Sullivan, A. Bull.

BUSINESS

B. Duckett opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

Moved: *“That the minutes of the previous Annual General meeting held on 3 May 2000, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.”*

J. Stewart/ N. Adamson - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

G. Muir expressed concern that he had not received any papers for the meeting.
W. Moen pointed out that some mail out problems had become evident as a result of a new valuation system being introduced.

These problems were beyond the control of The West Coast Regional Council, however W. Moen would check the database for any obvious errors.

L. Molloy sought clarification on LAPP Fund premium payments.

W. Moen and R. Lowe pointed out that payments still had to be made for 12 months after notification of the intention to withdraw from the LAPP Scheme.

B. Thomson also queried the \$28,000 LAPP premium.

R. Lowe explained the principles involved.

It was explained that no LAPP premium would be payable in the 2001 financial year.

R. Berry sought information on the protection of the Wanganui Quarry access road. He was not happy with the level of communication between the Council and the committee on the quarry road situation.

J. Stewart asked for further clarification on the issue of the quarry access.

R. Lowe explained that the road could be moved back from its present alignment, as the adjacent land was public land, not private land.

R. Berry was not happy with an A.G.M. notification period of 3 weeks.

It was explained by W. Moen that a draft of the minutes would be sent to the chairperson within 2 months of the meeting for comment.

R. Berry also asked that a quarterly financial statement be sent to the Chairperson. W. Moen would discuss this with the Corporate Services Manager, R. Mallinson. R. Berry also requested that an annual inspection should be carried out before the Annual General Meeting. R. Lowe undertook to carry this out as soon as possible.

L. Molloy expressed concern at the apparent lack of supervision on the drainage contract undertaken by Grant Thomas Contracting. He felt that the contractor had not followed instructions from the landowner. As M. Shearer had been in control of this contract, R. Lowe would seek clarification from him before commenting further.

R. Berry pointed out that there appeared to be no outstanding major work commitments to date, however the issue of vegetation clearance from the stopbank was discussed. W. Moen explained that there appeared to be some difficulty in some farmers carrying out stopbank clearance along their individual section frontages. It was also pointed out that a contract could be called to ensure that the bank was cleared over its whole length.

Moved: ***“That a contract for the ground spraying and crushing of the entire length of the stopbank be prepared and advertised.”***

L. Molloy/ G. Muir – Carried

FINANCIAL MINUTES

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the 2000 financial year.

Moved: ***“That the Financial Report for the 2000 financial year ending 31 December 2000 be adopted.”***

J. Muir/ R. Berry – Carried

MATTERS ARISING

As a result of the previous discussions no further items were forthcoming.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moved: ***“That R. Berry be re-elected as spokesperson for the Rating District for the 2001/2002 financial year.”***

L. Molloy/ N. Adamson – Carried

Moved: ***“That the committee for the 2001/2002 financial year be as follows:***

A. Harris - B. Thomson/ J. Stewart

N. Adamson - J. Muir/ G. Muir

L. Molloy - R. Berry/ P. Denham

R. Cunniffe – B. Thomson/ R. Berry”

M. Stewart/ J. Muir - carried

RATES STRIKE 2001/2002

R. Berry pointed out that the rate had been lowered last year as a “one – off” exercise. L. Molloy felt that as the LAPP fund charge was not now being taken out, the rating balance would rise accordingly. He also stated that he felt it was difficult to recommend a rate strike at all, given the healthy balance in the account.

R. Lowe pointed out that the bulk of the “savings” could quickly be used if extensive repair works were required.

He also explained the level of rating proposed in the Asset Management Plan, but also pointed out that the Asset Management Plan was also up for review.

B. Thomson and N. Adamson spoke in favour of a reduced rate for this year.

G. Muir suggested a rate strike of \$62,000 be made.

From past experience R. Berry was not happy to drop below this level.

Moved: ***“That the rates strike for the 2001/2002 financial year be set at \$62,000 + GST.”***

G. Muir/ R. Berry

The motion was put and lost on a show of hands – 2 for/ 8 against

Moved: ***“That the rates strike for the 2001/2002 financial year be set at \$41,000 + G.S.T.”***

L. Molloy/ B. Thomson – carried

The motion was put and won on a show of hands – 9 for/ 1 against

GENERAL BUSINESS

B. Duckett outlined her concerns at the future of Central Government participation in river control insurance schemes.

She explained that recent events led her to believe that central government was in the process of withdrawing all financial support for all damaged works associated with flooding and/or erosion. It appeared that they are only interested in damage associated with earthquakes.

If they dropped the 60% “subsidy” from LAPP applications this would leave the LAPP Fund to find 100% of all claims.

R. Lowe said that this would effectively raise rating district premiums by 30%.

B Thomson asked if the LAPP Fund finished would the contributing schemes get all the money they had paid in plus interest.

W. Moen pointed out that this is unknown, but is regarded as being similar to an insurance policy, which does not pay out if there is no claim.

R. Lowe, from recent cross sectional survey information informed those present that there appeared to be a build-up of gravel below Vic Berry’s Hook.

The river had degraded up to the bridge and the bed had been lowered by 1 metre at the State Highway Bridge.

R. Berry felt that there had been a noticeable cutting in the general river bed.

J. Stewart asked that all the stockpiles be checked when carrying out the annual inspection.

It was also requested that the Quarry Manager arrange for an alternative key to the Wanganui Quarry to be left with R. Berry.

L. Molloy asked if any rock had been “taken illegally” from the Weighbridge stockpile.

R. Lowe was not aware of any missing rock.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Wayne Moen
Senior Engineering Officer

