

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANGANUI RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE HARI HARI RESTROOMS ON 16 OCTOBER 2008, COMMENCING AT 7.05 PM.

PRESENT

G. Robertson, R. Hodgkinson, R. Gawne, K. Garland, J. Sullivan, A. Campbell, B. McGrath, J. Arnold, S. Black, JH. McIntosh, G. Muir, B. Adamson, J. Stewart, B. Thomson, L. Molloy.

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council

B. Chinn, (Councillor), D. Davidson (Councillor), P. Ewen (Councillor)

S. Moran, W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

M. Molloy, J. Muir, N. Anderson

G. Muir / A. Campbell - Carried

BUSINESS

B. Chinn opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

He introduced himself and the Council staff.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 19 September 2007, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

J. Sullivan / K. Garner - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

J. Sullivan requested that the rating district find another rock source as the rock from the Wanganui quarry is too expensive at \$33.50 per tonne.

Moved: *"That West Coast Regional Council seriously look at Bede McGrath's quarry as a new source of rock for the rating district".*

J. Sullivan / G. Robertson - Carried

FINANCIAL MINUTES

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2008. This leaves the account with a current up-to-date credit balance of approximately \$264,254.69.

Moved: *"That the financial report for the 2007 / 2008 year be adopted".*

J. Sullivan / A. Campbell - Carried

L. Molloy requested that the column of figures for the previous year's financial statement be included in the financial report each year.

Moved: *"That last year's costs be included in the financial statement each year".*

L. Molloy / J. Arnold - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

J. Sullivan queried the \$10,585.00 cost of staff time. He stated that he felt this amount was exceedingly high in view of the fact that there were only three visits to the rating district. W. Moen stated that he is charged out at \$90 per hour. A lot of his time has been taken up working on behalf of the rating district with the K. Garland Resource Consent. S. Moran advised that a considerable amount of staff time was taken up with G. Black's Access Agreement. G. Muir stated he would like to see staff time apportioned to each job.

J. Arnold stated that the requirement to clean out the quarry as you go makes contracts more expensive. He asked why is this not a charge against the quarry instead of the rating district. His view was that the true cost of rock including mucking out costs should be included in the royalty. J. Arnold stated that his contracts say that he can only take rock from the Wanganui Quarry.

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period: 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008.

He outlined the works that had been carried out during the period (\$85,335) and as a result of an inspection carried out on 1 September 2008, outlined a proposed allowance of \$146,035 for maintenance expenditure for the following 2008 / 2009 year.

Discussion ensued regarding capital works which includes the exposed stopbank where the river comes in which is downstream from Berry's Hook where the river is cutting in. W. Moen advised that he needs to talk to the affected parties in this area. He is concerned that the amount of rock that was required may have increased by now due to the time lapse in progressing the works. It was agreed that W. Moen will give A. Campbell the apportioned figures and he will get the support of the affected parties in the area.

J. Sullivan stated that the people at the meeting are not in favour of spraying the stopbank. They believe that every landowner that leases or runs the stopbank should be in charge of spraying or mowing in their area and if they don't do it themselves then they should be charged. S. Moran and W. Moen advised that this may not be legally possible. J. Sullivan stated they believe they could save \$17,000 by doing this themselves. W. Moen advised that he has recently had a price of \$130 per hour from a contractor who could mow the stopbank.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the adjacent landowner that leases the stopbank should be in charge of spraying or mowing their stopbank and if they don't then they should be charged by West Coast Regional Council".

J. Sullivan / B. Thomson – Carried

Discussion took place as to how rock is placed. W. Moen advised that rock should be placed with a digger. It is believed that on a section of the Wanganui Flat Road job, rock was dumped using a loader rather than placed. J. Stewart is not happy with the standard of this work. W. Moen will follow this up with the contractor concerned. Also discussion took place regarding the running surface of the bank is left in after a contract. Cr Chinn spoke of the importance of the rating district contacting their Spokesman (A. Campbell) so that he can contact WCRC and the matter can be dealt with straight away.

J. Stewart stated that on the same job he is unhappy with the work on the top of the stopbank as it affects trucks that drive along there. S. Moran encouraged the rating

district to keep an eye on works as they are happening, as it is a lot easier to put things right if the contractors are still on the job. He stated that this is a joint responsibility of the rating district and the council. W. Moen stated that if the rating district is not happy with works they need to let him know prior to the contractor being paid. Cr Chinn and S. Moran reiterated that the Spokesman needs to keep an eye on works and if he can't then ask someone else to. S. Moran advised this approach would be far more cost effective to the rating district than additional visits by W. Moen.

W. Moen advised that he had an inspection arranged for the 1st of September and he also had work organised in Whataroa at the same time in order for costs to be shared. W. Moen stated that he was advised the night before that the committee couldn't make it therefore he undertook the inspection without the committee present. It was requested by the meeting that the inspection is carried out in July as August / September is a busy time for the rating district.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2007 / 2008 financial year be adopted.***
- 2. That the 2008 / 2009 works proposals be adopted subject to the removal of the spraying and mowing of stopbanks and that the Rating District Committee carrying out an inspection prior to the commencement of the proposed works".***

J. Sullivan / K. Garner – Carried

W. Moen drew attention to the final figure for proposed capital works at the end of the works report. He asked the meeting if they wanted the rating district to do the work and then bill them for it. Or would they prefer to wait for the money to come in first? Discussion ensued around payment of works. S. Moran advised that a short formal contract would be drawn up and those people who have paid for their proportion of the capital costs would sign it and then the rating district can be billed. K. Garland asked if 250 tonne of rock is the correct amount. W. Moen confirmed that it was at the time of inspection but that this could have changed. K. Garland stated that if we look at the rateable value of the people involved then we are only talking about a few dollars and that the properties concerned are worth millions of dollars.

Discussion ensued regarding the correct figure for the proposed works on the south side of the river. B. Thomson stated that the figures don't tally up correctly and he has worked it out at \$66,950 instead of \$60,700, this was confirmed as an incorrect addition in the papers.

RATES 2009 / 2010

Discussion ensued regarding the rate strike. The meeting felt that due to savings made by removing costs for spraying and mowing they could settle for a smaller rate strike.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the rate strike for the 2009 / 2010 financial Year is \$50,000 (GST Excl)."

B. Thomson / J. Stewart - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

L. Molloy advised that Neville Adamson would like to come off the committee. J. Sullivan nominated J. Arnold with G. Adamson the seconder.

Moved: *"That the following members, namely:*

J. Arnold

J. Stewart

A. Campbell

R. Hodgkinson

G. Robertson be elected as the committee for the 2008 / 2009 financial year."

K. Garland / J. Stewart - Carried

Moved: *"That A. Campbell be elected as the spokesperson for the 2008 / 2009 financial year."*

K. Garland / J. Stewart - Carried

L. Molloy stated he would like to see the policy of two committee members standing down at each annual meeting carry on, as this gives the opportunity for new blood to come in. W. Moen asked which five members of the committee would be available for rotation next year. A. Campbell and J. Stewart could stand down next year.

Moved: *"That two of the committee members stand down by rotation starting form next year. They will be A. Campbell and J. Stewart".*

L. Molloy / G. Muir - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

W. Moen asked the meeting if they are looking at B. McGrath's quarry with a view to closing down the Wanganui Quarry or are they going to keep it going. W. Moen advised that there is still restoration work required in the quarry to bring it up to DoC requirements. A. Campbell asked what fees are involved and what would it cost per year. S. Moran advised that it would be more cost effective to go in and get as much rock as possible out, put the rubble back, then create benches which is part of the restoration work required. It was agreed that the committee would have a good look at the quarry and decide where to from here.

Harold Creek

W. Moen reported that the rating district committee has decided not to proceed with the clean out of Harold Creek. He stated that they have been advised by NZ Transport Agency (Transit NZ) that there is no advantage in cleaning out this creek.

Moved: *"That Harold Creek be removed from the Wanganui Rating District".*

J. Sullivan / A. Campbell - Carried

Cr Ewen advised that as Chairperson of the Resource Management Committee he wished to inform the meeting that LAPP funding has gone up significantly this year. He advised that there is still a commitment from Council that they will still pay if it is of general benefit that the ratepayer gets.

Meeting Time

S. Moran asked the meeting if they would consider changing the meeting time from and evening to a morning meeting. This would enable staff to then continue south for meetings in Okuru and Whataroa. It was agreed that next year's meeting would commence at 9.30 a.m.

Cross Sections

W. Moen advised that most rating districts are having cross section work carried out every three years along with analysis on theoretical flood heights in order to give rating districts an indication of the potential of stopbanks during a flood. The analysis will show what level the stopbanks will need to be raised to. S. Moran advised that the Asset Management Plan would need to be amended to include the correct levels. He gave detailed examples of how the analysis is interpreted and the benefits of having accurate information.

L. Molloy stated that it would be false economy not to do proceed as this is the only way of telling what the stopbanks are capable of. W. Moen explained the costs involved and the advantages of going ahead with cross sections and analysis work. He asked the meeting if they would like to go ahead with the cross sections.

Moved: "That the Wanganui Rating District proceed to having cross sections carried out".

*L. Molloy / G. Muir
Against R. Hodgkinson, B. McGrath
- Carried*

S. Moran asked the meeting if they would like the design work done. The answer was no, the rating district is happy to continue with the scheme as it is. S. Moran stated that it is the rating district's decision and it needs to be recorded in the Asset Management Plan.

L. Molloy asked if the access agreement to the quarry road had been signed. S. Moran confirmed that it has been signed and is now registered on Mrs Black's title. The agreement is reviewed every year. S. Moran confirmed that the actual easement of the road is in perpetuity. It was asked how much is owed on the road; S. Moran confirmed approximately \$33,000. S. Moran confirmed that if another source of rock was found the road and restoration would still need to be paid for by the rating district.

R. Hodgkinson stated that the river is cutting in at Clarke's Hook and rock is slumping. He wondered if the rock should be replenished. K. Garland stated that this Hook is sucking up money and that rivers flow better along a straight bank. Discussion ensued on whether to take the hook out. K. Garland stated that it is currently causing a whirlpool effect.

It was agreed that W. Moen and the committee would have a look at this area next time W. Moen is in the area.

Cr Chinn thanked the ratepayers for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8. 25 pm.

Action Points for follow up

W. Moen	Inspect Clarke's Hook with RD committee to see if rock is slumping and if it should be replenished.
W. Moen	Ensure that the column of figures for the previous year's financial statement be included in the financial report each year.
W. Moen	Berry's Hook where the river is cutting in. W. Moen to talk to the affected parties re the amount of rock that was required may have increased.

	W. Moen will give A. Campbell the apportioned figures and A. Campbell will get the support of affected parties.
W. Moen	Wanganui Flat Road job, rock was placed using a loader. J. Stewart is not happy with the standard of this work. W. Moen will follow this up with the contractor concerned.
W. Moen	Carry out inspection in July as RD is busy in August / September with calving etc.