

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE**  
**WANGANUI RATING DISTRICT**  
**HELD AT THE HARI HARI RESTROOMS**  
**ON 13 NOVEMBER 2014, COMMENCING AT 10.10 AM.**

**PRESENT**

A. Campbell, J. Stewart, R. Hodgkinson, G. Robertson, K. Robertson, M. Lawn, J. McIntosh.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

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

**APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**BUSINESS**

Cr McDonnell opened the meeting and welcomed those present.  
He introduced himself, Cr Challenger and the Council staff.

**Moved:**        ***"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 11 September 2013, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."***

*A. Campbell / J. Stewart - Carried*

**MATTERS ARISING**

M. Meehan updated that action points. He advised that last year there was discussion on the classification that covers the old Poerua scheme. He stated that this area is in the rating district and the question is whether or not they should be contributing any money to this rating district. M. Meehan advised that this has been looked into and it was noted that these ratepayers are not getting any benefit from being in the rating district and this is why they are not contributing. A. Campbell stated that this is only a small area. M. Meehan advised that should any drainage clearing need to be done in this area then the rating district would be able to work with those concerned to do this. All present were happy with this decision.

M. Meehan advised a meeting was held to investigate the rock source at One One Valley. The committee agreed that they would prefer a private contractor to retrieve the rock in this area. He stated a quarry could be set up but in the interests of competition in the market, the committee decided that it would be better if a private contractor went into this quarry as the rating district would not be tied into one quarry. A. Campbell stated that rock has been used from the gold claim near Lake Ianthe. A speaker asked if Sicon Contracting Ltd is going to go into the Wanganui Quarry. M. Meehan advised that the company has indicated that they will use this quarry but they are yet to do anything. W. Moen stated that he remains concerned about the lack of a reasonable size rock source in this area. He stated that there are a couple of private rock sources available. M. Meehan advised that if a private contractor does not come up with a rock source within the next

six months then the One One quarry can be re-looked at. M. Meehan advised that a permit, consent and access agreement would be required prior to winning any rock. He stated that a lot of ground work has already been done in this area. It was noted that the rock in this area is in on Ngai Tahu land.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

M. Meehan presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2014. He advised that the closing balance as at 30 June 2014 was \$264,741.20. Included in this figure is the contribution of \$166,490.88 from the Ministry of Civil Defence. M. Meehan advised that the closing balance is quite healthy because of this contribution. He noted that past financial year was quite a heavy year for contractor costs and works within the river.

## **WORKS REPORT**

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period: 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. He advised that a total \$292,498.96 worth of works were carried out during the reporting period with \$120,247.20 of this being for capital works, this money was recovered from the individuals who had this work done, and \$172,251.76 for maintenance works. He stated that recent emergency works cost \$84,297.84.

A speaker stated that the cost of using a helicopter for spraying of the riverbanks is exorbitant as he feels a tractor could be used to do the same thing. W. Moen stated that he does not organise this spraying but using a helicopter is more expensive but far more effective. K. Robertson stated that spraying may not be required this year as last year there was a very good kill. She suggested that this spraying be done biannually. It was agreed that an assessment would be done, but still allow for the cost of the spraying in case it does need to be done.

W. Moen advised that he carried out an inspection with the committee on 31 July 2014 and \$117,197.84 worth of works were identified, this figure includes \$12,900 for aerial spraying and \$20,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

## **RATES 2015 / 2016**

Cr McDonnell advised that the recommended rate strike is \$100,000. There was no discussion, all present agreed with the \$100,000 rate strike.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

T. Jellyman stated that this rating district has a rotation policy in place with the two on the top of the list each year standing down therefore Mr Campbell and Mr Hodgkinson are due to stand down this year. It was noted that Mr Campbell is the current committee spokesperson. J. Stewart moved that the status quo remains. Cr McDonnell asked if there is anyone present who is not on the committee. Mr Lawn stated that he is not on the committee and does not wish to be on it. It was confirmed that all members of the committee are still in the area. There was no rotation this year as only seven people were present for the meeting.

***A. Campbell***

***R. Hodgkinson***

***G. Robertson***

***M. Aynsley (represents ratepayers in the township)***

***J. Arnold***

***J. Stewart is elected as the committee for the 2014/ 2015 financial year."***

**Moved: "That the status quo remains for the committee and Spokesperson."**

*J. Stewart / M. Lawn - Carried*

A. Campbell was re-elected as the spokesperson for the 2014 / 2015 financial year.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

M. Meehan advised that Council is currently consulting on a draft bylaw for what you can and can't do on flood protection structures. He stated that in some areas quite a lot of planting has been done on stopbanks and years on, this has become a problem with trees having to be removed. M. Meehan advised that in some areas stock access on stopbanks has also been an issue. M. Meehan offered those present copies of the draft bylaw and advised that there are opportunities to make a submission if required.

M. Meehan advised that staff have updated the asset management plans for all rating districts. He offered copies of the Wanganui rating district asset management plan to those present and stated that new maps with structures listed on them are included in the asset management plans. M. Meehan advised that the asset management plans are available on Council's website. He stated that as works are done the asset management plans will be updated.

A. Campbell stated that some of the rating district's emergency works needs to be done straight away and he feels that the tender process takes too long. He stated that in August the bank was nearly lost. M. Meehan advised that there is room in the Procurement Policy to allow for telephone quotes, and this has been done in the past. W. Moen stated that the annual inspection was done in this area with the committee a few days prior and the area in question showed signs of slumping at this time. He stated at this time the slumping did not appear urgent. W. Moen advised that he organised three verbal quotes for this emergency works. W. Moen stated that a local contractor (J. Arnold) was not available; the work was awarded to Westland Contractors Ltd. W. Moen said that subsequently the damage became worse and verbal quotes were required for this extra work. Westland Contractors Ltd won this contract. W. Moen stated that time is needed to get quotes together. M. Meehan agreed with this and advised that in this instance the situation might not have been an emergency right at the start. The normal tendering process would have been followed but the situation changed quite suddenly and then the emergency procedure of getting verbal quotes was used. It was agreed that with hindsight, when the slumping was first noticed it should have been repaired then. A. Campbell stated had there been a big flood at this time then there would have been a major problem with flooding onto the paddocks in this area. M. Meehan advised that in future if a similar situation arises with regard to potential emergency work, then it will be progressed quicker with the emergency works procedure being followed especially if heavy rain has been forecast. M. Meehan stated that it was good that J. Stewart contacted Council about this slumping and it is great that the committee is active and keeping a good eye on things. M. Meehan stated that although annual inspections are carried out each year, inspections are also made following large flood events.

Further discussion took place on the tender process. M. Meehan answered questions and explained the tender process in detail. He stated that usually Council receives three or four tenders for each job which drives the price down and this is good for the rating districts. M. Meehan stated that where it is not an emergency, the tender process can take time usually around a week for most jobs. M. Meehan advised that extra staff resources have been put into the engineering area. He noted that staff were stretched during the Hokitika seawall project and things may not have happened quite as quickly as

they normally would but there is no reason in the future why it won't. M. Meehan stated that timeframes need to be factored into any tenders and this is clear in the tender documents with a start date and completion date. He stated timeframes are especially important for emergency works. He stated that Council will work on this to ensure works are done in a timely manner. The rating district is keen to get quotes for works that are not deemed as emergency works as this keeps the price down.

Discussion took place on an area at the bottom of the scheme which may require rock protection work in the future. M. Meehan suggested that a plan is put in place as a trigger point for when this work is required. M. Meehan suggested that an erosion line be investigated for this area.

W. Moen spoke about Raymond's bank on the north side of the river that is not yet included in the rating district. W. Moen stated that he advised Raymond to write to him requesting that this area can be included in the rating district once it has been inspected and agreed to by the rating district committee.

W. Moen advised that Mr Garland's bank is not yet to the required standard to become part of the rating district. M. Meehan advised that if work is not up to the required standard, then Council would not recommend that this area becomes part of the rating district scheme.

M. Meehan advised that sometimes there can be misunderstandings with river works consents as they are not like building consents. He stated that just because someone has a resource consent for a rock wall doesn't mean that it has to have the Council standard rock and it has been toed in. Council looks at the effects of the stopbank to ensure that adjoining properties are not affected. A. Campbell stated this is the idea of the two year settling period. K. Robertson asked if the bank is approved is the two years from the date of approval from the rating district or completion. M. Meehan stated that it is once the work has been completed. He stated that the reason for this two year settling period is because during the first year up to 25% total costs in maintenance, then the next year 15% then 5% then this plateaus out as the wall settles. W. Moen advised that Mr Garland's bank has been completed for much longer than the two years but he has never applied to have it included in the scheme.

M. Meehan advised that he would always liaise with the committee prior to any works being included in the rating district scheme to ensure that all parties concerned are in agreement. Council would also be informed of this.

Cr McDonnell thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.06 a.m.

### **Action Points for follow up**

- W. Moen to access riverbanks to ascertain whether or not spraying is required every year.
- W. Moen to arrange for trigger point line for erosion for the bottom area of the scheme for when work is required.
- W. Moen to investigate the Resource Consent for Raymond's bank and advice the committee on whether or not it can be included in the rating district.