

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANGANUI RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE HARI HARI RESTROOMS ON 22 NOVEMBER 2019, COMMENCING AT 9.34 AM.

#### PRESENT

A. Campbell, J. Stewart, R. McKenzie, M. Lawn, B. Walkington, M. Molloy (arrived 10.06 a.m), G. & K. Robertson (arrived 10.11 a.m)

#### IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council  
D. Magner (Councillor), S. Challenger (Councillor)  
R. Beal, B. Russ, R. Mallinson, T. Jellyman (Staff)

#### APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

#### BUSINESS

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

**Moved:** *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 29 October 2018, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

*J. Stewart / S. Challenger - Carried*

#### MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Beal presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2019. R. Beal advised that the opening balance was \$319,053.31, total expenses were \$86,050 and the closing as at 30 June 2019 was \$465,129.67.

#### WORKS REPORT

B. Russ presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. He advised that a total of \$21,611 worth of maintenance works were carried out during the reporting period along with \$62,569 worth of capital works which were done in January, all rock used came from Bede McGrath's land. B. Russ stated that the rock was obtained at a very good price. B. Russ advised that at the time of writing this report no extra work had been done since 30 June but in last few weeks some capital works which was done last year has required topping up. He advised that there is further work required in this area, and work is currently being carried out on the north side of the river. B. Russ advised that it was a struggle to find a contractor to do this work but he was able to find three contractors who were able to work together to get the work done.

B. Russ advised that he carried out an inspection with the spokesperson on 21 September 2019 and advised that \$84,000 worth of works were identified, which he is hopeful will be 100% covered by Council's and MCDEM's insurers. B. Russ suggested that \$40,000 is allowed for unforeseen maintenance.

## **RATES 2020 / 2021**

B. Russ advised that the recommended rate strike is \$100,000 GST exclusive. The prudent reserve for this rating district is \$500,000. The balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2020 / 2021 financial year is likely to be \$525,000. It was agreed that the rate strike would remain at \$100,000.

A. Campbell asked if the rating district is covered by insurance should there be a major weather event. R. Mallinson advised that the excess on any claim is \$250,000 cover which is 40% of the risk and the Crown covers the other 60% with Council picking up the excess. R. Mallinson stated that in a major event it is likely that other rating districts across the region would also be affected. R. Beal advised there is not always 100% cover in every situation as declared values are based on when rating district assets were built, as prices changed. B. Russ advised that if there is widespread damage on the West Coast, contractors will be in short supply and their prices will then go up.

J. Stewart stated that there is a shortage of good rock on the West Coast. R. Beal updated the meeting on the current advice from NIWA with regard to weather patterns and stated that their advice is that the West Coast is moving into a similar pattern experienced during the floods in the 1980's, and this pattern started around 2014. He stated that it is likely there will be more weather events similar to the March one, and with this in mind it would be prudent to assess the rating districts need for rock in a large weather event. It was noted that there is a good rock supply at the gold claim and Lake Ianthe. B. Russ advised that the royalty on this rock is \$10 per tonne. B. Russ encouraged the meeting to look for rock sources locally if possible.

Discussion took place regarding the rate strike and it was agreed that the status quo would remain.

**Moved:** *"That rate strike for the Wanganui rating district is \$100,000 Excl GST for the 2020 / 2021 financial year."*

*J. Stewart / A. Campbell - Carried*

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

T. Jellyman read out the names of last year's committee members. She asked if anyone wishes to either stand down or join the committee. Discussion took place and it was agreed that the status quo would remain.

*A. Campbell*

*R. Hodgkinson*

*G. Robertson*

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

*J. Arnold*

*J. Stewart*

*N. Blackburn is elected as the committee for the 2019 / 2020 financial year."*

**Moved:** *"That A. Campbell is re-elected as Spokesperson for the 2019 / 2020 financial year."*

*M. Lawn / R. McKenzie - Carried*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

J. Stewart requested that the property owners name as well as the structure number is include in the works report for clarity.

J. Stewart raised the matter of the retard near the deer gate as the retard has been pulled right back to the back. He is concerned that he could be faced with paying for capital works for this. It was noted that there is a stockpile of rock in this area. It was agreed that A. Campbell and B. Russ would inspect this area.

B. Russ displayed a plan of the river where the stopbank needs to be raised and stated that there is a 1.1 km length that needs to be raised to 0.6m at a cost of \$128,000. He advised that the 1.7km stopbank that needs to be raised will cost approximately \$133,000. B. Russ advised that the whole 1.1km area currently has no rock protection on it and the bush that was in the riverbed is slowly

getting eroded into. B. Russ displayed photographs of the area to the meeting. He stated that the vegetation in this area was providing quite a lot of protection to the stopbank, and this will need to be rock lined in the future. B. Russ confirmed that this work is capital work. B. Russ stated he would like to go higher but this would increase the costs. Extensive discussion took place on who pays, how this would be funded, the possibility of a loan to pay for the work, and changing the rating district to a complete capital scheme. It was agreed that this would be unaffordable to a lot of people. B. Russ advised that everyone benefits from the 1.1 km section of work required, as well as the 1.7 km section. Discussion took place on the funding of this capital work. R. Mallinson advised that if the rules are changed then consultation would need to be done with the whole rating district. B. Russ advised that the same situation is going to come up in slightly different area over the coming years. J. Stewart stated that the costing needs to be done so that people know how much they are going to be up for. B. Russ stated that it is important that this work is done as soon as possible. R. Mallinson explained how the rating system and capital contributions work for this rating district. It was agreed that all landowners affected would meet middle to late next week, view the site and discuss pricing. B. Russ advised that gravel from the closest island would be used, but care would be taken to ensure this doesn't affect the river in another area. B. Russ advised that once the work is agreed to he will then prepare the tender.

R. McKenzie expressed concern with rock that was placed recently as there is now no toe and he feels this area could be vulnerable. B. Russ advised that repair in this area would be capital works and he needs to get agreement from those who would pay for this work. It was agreed that big rock is needed for this area. B. Russ advised that this whole section of the stopbank needs to be looked at as it is very silty, and will need to be rocked. It was noted that Westroads have been dumping slip material in this area. It was agreed that B. Russ would request that this is stopped.

B. Russ advised that the two sections of work which are yet to be done will not become part of the rating district until it has been in place for two years.

Discussion about insurance took place, Cr Challenger reminded those present that it is book value that is insured not replacement value. It was also clarified that any assets need to be included in Council's asset management register in order to be covered by insurance.

Extensive discussion took place on a section of the stopbank called the Garland stopbank. It was stated that there has not yet been a big flood in this area. B. Russ advised if the rating district would like to build to a higher standard, use more rock and have a deeper toe, this can be done but it will cost money. B. Russ stated this work was signed off in 2015, it is included in the asset management register, and there is little that can be done about this now. Discussion took place on whether or not all design work should be changed from now on. Cr Challenger advised that a survey could be sent out to the rating district to see if they wish to change the design of any future work.

Discussion took place on the stockpiling of rock. It was agreed that stockpiled rock could be used for emergencies, but it must be replaced. B. Russ stated that he is currently getting prices to replace this rock.

Discussion took place on the La Fontaine area.

It was agreed that a meeting will be held next year if required, and that B. Russ and A. Campbell will liaise regarding this.

R. Beal thanked A. Campbell for the work he does on behalf of the rating district.

Cr Challenger thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.45 a.m.

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

- B. Russ and A. Campbell to inspect the area near the deer gate.
- Arrange a meeting with affected parties to discuss the works required.
- B. Russ to contact Westroads and ask them to stop dumping slip material on the stopbank.

- Send out survey to ascertain whether design of future work should be upgraded.
- B. Russ and A. Campbell to inspect area at La Fontaine Creek.