

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 11 JUNE 2013, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.03 A.M.

PRESENT:

R. Scarlett (Chairman), B. Chinn, A. Robb, T. Archer, D. Davidson, A. Birchfield

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), J. Adams (Consents & Compliance Manager), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES:

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that the apology from Cr Cummings be accepted.*

Carried

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Birchfield / Robb) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 14 May 2013, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting dated 28 May 2013, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:

4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that following the king tides in May, there was no damage to the Punakaiki seawall but material was thrown up onto road during this time. M. Meehan reported that 32,256 m³ of gravel was excavated from Vine Creek and concrete piped culvert has been installed. He advised this work was carried out by Westland Contractors Ltd at a cost of \$68,700. M. Meehan reported that the Saltwater / New River outlet was reopened in May. He drew attention to the before and after photographs in his report of this area. M. Meehan spoke to addendum to his report and advised that following a combination of rough seas and flooding; New River has formed a new outlet directly downstream of the New River Bridge. He advised that a careful eye will be kept on this area as

he knows that from the Graeme Smart Report that this river mouth has migrated up and down the coast over the years.

M. Meehan reported that work is progressing well in all of the council quarries and there are good stockpiles of rock available.

Cr Davidson asked if council still owned the Wanganui quarry. M. Meehan responded that the sale of this quarry has only just gone through. M. Meehan reported that this is the last time he will be reporting on this quarry.

Moved (Archer / Chinn) *that this report be received.*

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report advising that this month's report in the financial report for the ten month's to the end of April. He reported that the surplus is \$1.159M for the period compared to a budgeted surplus of \$728,000. R. Mallinson reported that the Investment Portfolio is continuing to perform well.

R. Mallinson reported that the Warm West Coast Scheme is continuing to do well with 168 loans to property owners being approved. R. Mallinson advised that by the end of the financial year the total amount of funding required from Council will be approximately \$650,000 which will be funded by way of a loan from the bank.

Moved (Chinn / Birchfield) *that this report be received.*

Carried

4.2.1 WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

R. Mallinson spoke to this report.

Moved (Archer / Davidson)

- 1. That the returned voting documents for the 2013 elections be processed during the voting period, such early processing to be undertaken in accordance with Section 79 of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 and the SOLGM Code of Best Practice.*
- 2. That the West Coast Regional Council endorses alphabetical order for candidates' names.*

Carried

4.2.2 DECISIONS ON SUBMISSIONS AND ADOPTION OF ANNUAL PLAN

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that a special meeting was held to receive the submissions and this report facilitates the decisions made. C. Ingle reported that the only change to the Annual Plan that has been recommended is the staff submission on the changes to the Whataroa rating district classifications. C. Ingle advised that he is requesting that the status quo remains with regard to the three submissions that relate to the Red Jacks rating district as further work is required as there are some inequities in the rating balances if council goes with the recommendation as proposed in the Draft Plan. C. Ingle feels that more time is needed to work on this to ensure that Council does the right thing for the community. R. Mallinson advised that Council will be reverting to the existing status quo prior to the Draft Annual Plan. C. Ingle advised that a motion is required to clarify this.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield)

- 1. That Council consider each of the submissions and the staff recommendations attached to this report, deliberate, and make their decisions on each submission.*
- 2. That the status quo remains, for the current financial year, for the Red Jacks rating district proposal, in order to provide an opportunity to evaluate the impact of the change in rates on the rating district members.*

3. *That the Annual Plan for 2013 – 14 be adopted, including any amendments resulting from (1) above.*

Carried

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to his report and advised that he attended the Civil Defence Coordinating Executive Group meeting on the 6th of June. He stated that the national civil defence exercise was evaluated at this meeting. He noted that the evaluation from the Ministry which is still in draft form has revealed that all four West Coast council's emergency operations centers had good leadership and good staffing levels. C. Ingle advised that the EMIS software worked better in some areas than others. C. Ingle advised that he led Grey District Council's emergency operations center and he was impressed with the level of competency and organisation along with a lot of very good volunteers.

C. Ingle reported that he has been involved with work on the Hokitika Beach erosion problem. He advised that he has been talking with Westland District Council about the potential of setting up a rating district and building some beach protection in this area. C. Ingle advised that he and Cr Scarlett have been invited to attend the next meeting of the Westland District Council on the 27th of June. C. Ingle stated that he has talked to the Mayor and CEO of Westland District Council to try to get this moved along as the erosion is getting to a critical point and is getting close to the road and the back of properties. C. Ingle advised that he has asked permission to circulate an opinion survey which is how these matters are usually started. C. Ingle stated that there has been some buildup of the beach at the Sunset Point end but the NIWA scientist has advised that he is not seeing this towards the front of the town. C. Ingle displayed the cross section report that he received this morning which reveals significant depletion in this area compared to any other time period since monitoring started in this area. C. Ingle has distributed Murray Hicks's report to Councillors which is an update to his advice from November. Dr Hicks's advice is that the beach has significantly depleted. C. Ingle advised that there are photographs from 1913 that show waves coming in to the back of the shops along Revell Street. He advised that there is no information from this era that tells how quickly the beach built up again. C. Ingle stated that Dr Hicks is saying that this could get that bad again and there is nothing stopping it from being worse than 1913.

C. Ingle feels that something needs to be done to build a more sustainable town for the community. Cr Scarlett stated that he is keen to see community consultation get started along with involving the Westland District Council. Cr Robb asked C. Ingle if he has approached Westland District Council to progress this. C. Ingle responded that Westland know that this is on today's agenda, he has spoken with the Mayor and CEO of Westland District Council but he is yet to speak to the entire Westland District Council. C. Ingle advised that the next meeting of the Westland District Council is not until the 27th of June but there are king tides due prior to this meeting. Cr Davidson stated that he would have thought it would have been the district council approaching the regional council regarding this matter. Cr Archer asked C. Ingle when the community consultation is likely to happen. C. Ingle responded that at the moment he is seeking permission from Westland District Council to circulate an opinion survey prior to the 27th of June. He is hoping that the Westland CEO will contact her councilors by email so that this can happen before the 27th of June. C. Ingle advised that the opinion survey would be very similar to the one sent out to Saltwater Creek / New River ratepayers, where the problem was described, options were suggested on how to solve the problems. A form is included in the postage paid envelope, these returns are then collated and a report is provided to council so that a decision can be made on whether or not to go ahead with a rating district. Discussion took place on rating classifications. Cr Robb stated that the most similar case to Hokitika would be the Greymouth Floodwall rating district and this is an undifferentiated rate.

Moved (Davidson / Robb) *that this report be received.*

Carried

6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the Annual Plan hearing and the Zone 5 meeting recently. Cr Scarlett advised that Mr John Hamilton from MCDEM gave a long overview of the Canterbury earthquake

at the Zone 5 meeting. Mr Hamilton advised that the international community were very impressed with how Canterbury and New Zealand coped with the earthquake. Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the South Island Strategic Alliance (SISA) meeting. He advised that SISA is about roading and freighting and stated that whilst the government is looking at roads of national concern there is also a case to be made about roads around rural and farming communities and their contribution of income per person is huge as is their contribution to GDP and exporting.

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended yesterday's Mayors and Chairs forum. He advised that a programme relating to regional development was discussed at the forum and will be led by this council. Cr Scarlett advised that the regional development programme is going to work on the importance mining has to the West Coast. Cr Scarlett is hopeful that the government will be keen to respond to this as the economic development of mining as well as farming is the key to economic development on the West Coast. Cr Scarlett stated that this is an exciting project with a lot of merit.

Cr Scarlett reported that the hearing consent that he was involved with was postponed at the last minute after he had received a letter at the last minute, from a person who believed that they were an affected party and that they were going to go for a judicial review. Cr Scarlett made this decision based on the costs incurred by the applicant as this case could have gone on for a long time. Cr Scarlett confirmed that this was the case that was in last night's newspaper and it related to a mine site near Camerons.

Moved (Scarlett / Archer) *that this report be received.*

Carried

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.39 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date