

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9 APRIL 2013, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.08 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 12 March 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. He drew attention to the photograph in his report of a completed rock retard in the Taramakau rating district. M. Meehan reported that there is some flood damage repair work to be carried out in the Franz Josef rating district. M. Meehan advised that the pinnacle has been removed in Kiwi Quarry. He stated this work went well and has significantly reduced risk in this quarry.

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

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report in R. Mallinson's absence and advised that R. Mallinson is currently attending a financial management seminar. C. Ingle advised that the surplus is just over \$1M compared to the budgeted surplus of just over \$500,000. He stated that Council's investment portfolio is continuing to perform well with returns of just over \$1M. C. Ingle advised that we will have a Westpac report for next month's council meeting to report on the portfolio's financial performance from 1 January this year. They will then report quarterly from now onwards. C. Ingle advised that R. Mallinson has apologised in advance as next month he will not be able to do a full financial report for a variety of reasons but we will have an investment report for councillors.

C. Ingle reported that as of yesterday there are now 79 ratepayers who have joined the Warm West Coast scheme. He stated that there has recently been a big increase of Greymouth ratepayers who have joined the scheme.

Cr Scarlett asked if the \$400,000 withdrawn from the investment portfolio is bridging finance for the draw down for the Warm West Coast scheme. C. Ingle responded that there is no link to the Warm West Coast scheme as it is funded purely from loans. He advised that the \$400,000 is drawn down every year so that 50% of portfolio earnings can be spent on council programmes.

Cr Archer commented that the VCS Business Unit is continuing to perform well.

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

Carried

4.2.1 ADOPTION OF ANNUAL PLAN 2013 /14 FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that this is the formal adoption of the Draft Annual Plan for public consultation.

Moved (Robb / Birchfield)

1. *That the 2013/14 Draft Annual Plan be approved for release to public consultation pursuant to sections 83 and 95 of the Local Government Act 2002, subject to the finalisation of the rating factors by the Corporate Services Manager.*
2. *That the 2013/14 Draft Annual Plan be publicly notified no later than 20/4/2013.*
3. *That the public consultation period will run for one month from the date publicly notified.*
4. *That public hearings be held at 10.30 am on Tuesday 28 May 2013.*
5. *That following the consideration of public submissions, Council will finally confirm the 2013/14 Annual plan at its meeting on 11 June 2013.*

Carried

4.2.2 EIGHT MONTH PERFORMANCE REVIEW

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that the report that was sent out in the agenda has since been updated. New reports were distributed and councillors took time to read the updated report.

Cr Chinn drew attention to the performance target which states that the Land and Riverbed Plan and the Water Management Plan have now been made operative. Cr Chinn feels that Land and Riverbed Plan has not been made operative at all as the same procedure has not been followed in the Schedule 2 wetlands because landowners of Schedule 2 wetlands were not consulted with. Cr Scarlett agreed with Cr Chinn and stated that it wasn't a great process and these people have missed out. Cr Archer suggested that the performance target be altered to say that following the Environment Court directive that 185 more wetlands be added into the Plan. It was agreed that this change would be made. Cr Birchfield feels that this land has been confiscated and landowners have not been compensated. C. Ingle advised that landowners can still apply for consent but in some cases consent may not be granted.

C. Ingle advised that Council's submission on the Marine Transport law reform process has been very successful with the Select Committee accepting everything that was asked for. C. Ingle advised that the select committee did not realise that this Council did not manage the West Coast ports and that there are different arrangements in place on the West Coast than other parts of the country. C. Ingle stated that it is good to see that a common sense approach has been listened to.

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

Carried

5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle reported that he attended an Envirolink meeting in Wellington on the 2nd of April.

C. Ingle advised that the Annual Plan process includes several changes to rating district boundaries or classifications. He stated these changes may be the biggest issue that affected landowners may make submissions on. C. Ingle advised that the proposed change to the Red Jacks rating district is quite significant as it is an increase to the rating area. The Wanganui and Whataroa rating districts changes are more minor. C. Ingle advised that an individual letter to each member of these rating districts will be sent out outlining the proposed changes in their rating districts and inviting them to make a submission.

Cr Archer asked C. Ingle if he was able to form an opinion, when presenting the submission on proposed RMA changes, to the Select Committee on how they are feeling about the proposed changes. C. Ingle advised that he did not go to Wellington but spoke to the submission via teleconference. He advised that questions were asked by Eugenie Sage and Maggie Barry, these questions related to reporting, monitoring and estimated costs. C. Ingle advised that council's submission was focused on the costs of increased monitoring for national reporting purposes which has had an impact at official level. A copy of the submission was sent to Mr Guy Beatson from MfE who has investigated with senior staff in terms of if this goes through, how are the regulations that are then set in place are exercised by the Minister. C. Ingle advised that Mr Beatson informed him that based on the information he has received, the new regulations would involve consultation with councils around the regulation setting process, and councils would be involved with this.

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

Carried

6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)

Cr Scarlett reported that he attended the budget workshop on the 26th of March. He also attended to constituency matters during the reporting period.

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

Carried

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.43 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date