

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 15 JULY 2014, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 12.05 P.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

A. Robb (Chairman), P. Ewen, A. Birchfield, N. Clementson, T. Archer, S. Challenger

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

#### **1. APOLOGIES:**

**Moved** (Archer / Challenger) *that the apology from Cr McDonnell, be accepted.*

*Carried*

#### **2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

#### **3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved** (Clementson / Archer) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 10 June 2014, 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 work has been completed in the Vine Creek, Punakaiki and Wanganui rating districts. He reported that a culvert crushed by the seawall slumping in the Punakaiki rating district has replaced. The topping up of rock work has been tendered. M. Meehan advised that a meeting was held with the Punakaiki rating district to discuss the work required. The committee requested that should the tender price be over \$70,000 then they would call a meeting to discuss this further. M. Meehan reported that the tender price came in at just over \$53,000 and the committee voted to proceed with the works. More rock is needed for the southern end of the seawall. M. Meehan advised that he has been in close communication with the spokesperson of the committee to keep them informed of costs.

M. Meehan advised that he has been putting a concept plan together for the proposed flood protection scheme to protect Westport from flooding from the Buller River. He advised that the concept plan has taken longer than anticipated due to the size of the model and information the consultants are requiring. M. Meehan advised that a meeting is scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> of August with Buller District Councillors and other parties. He stated that this meeting will outline the concept plan, estimate of costs and the possibility of a proposed rating district. A site visit will be made to the area. Cr Birchfield expressed concern about how Westport residents would feel about the possibility of paying for flood protection in view of the current economic climate in Westport at the moment. Cr Clementson commented that in the lead up to the elections he was often asked by constituents "what are you going to do

about the Buller River". C. Ingle advised that WCRC is proposing the flood protection scheme and consulting with Buller District Council to get their input. He advised that if Buller District Council are happy with the concept plan, then WCRC will go out to the community and propose a rating district to pay for the works. C. Ingle advised that the community consultation will be along the same lines as what was done for Hokitika when the seawall was first proposed. M. Meehan stated that the proposed flood protection scheme for Buller has been on the books for a very long time. He advised that he has received feedback from some residents asking when this is going to happen. M. Meehan stated that individuals will look at the cost of this and if it is affordable then the community will vote in favour of it. Cr Clementson stated that he has warned some of his constituents not to expect this work to be cheap but the overwhelming feedback has been that a flood through Westport would not be cheap either. Cr Archer stated that he feels Westport residents will not be too surprised about the costs as they have wanted something done about the Buller River for a long time. Extensive discussion ensued on the history of flooding in this area.

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

*Carried*

## **5.1 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT**

C. Ingle spoke to this report in R. Mallinson's absence. C. Ingle stated that the Investment Portfolio has provided a good result of 8% for the year which is 1% more than budgeted. C. Ingle stated that the surplus has been affected by the Ministry of Civil Defence's grant, the Camelback Quarry expenditure being higher than expected and the resource consents numbers being a little lower this year. C. Ingle drew attention to the insurance renewals section of the report and advised that this is part of Council's risk management policy.

**Moved** (Clementson / Archer)

*Carried*

## **6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT**

Cr Robb spoke to his report and advised that it has been a quiet month. Cr Robb reported that the presentation on the Regional Policy Statement he and M. Meehan made to Westland District Council at their recent council meeting was very well received. Cr Robb advised that the key message is that Councillors and Mayors need to be involved in this process so that these elected members are having a say.

Cr Robb reported that he attended a lunch with Hon Nathan Guy in Hokitika when the Minister was in town to open AgFest. Cr Robb stated that this was a worthwhile meeting.

Discussion took place on the recent regional transport meeting the Cr Robb and Cr Ewen attended. Cr Robb stated that there have been two NZTA workshops held recently where attendees have been asked to identify what is important for their regions. Cr Robb advised that a strategy needs to be formed.

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

*Carried*

## **7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.26 p.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date

