

### 3.1

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2020, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 12.30 PM**

#### **PRESENT:**

A. Birchfield (Chairman), S. Challenger, P. Ewen, D. Magner, B. Cummings, J. Hill, L. Coll McLaughlin

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

R. Mallinson (Acting Chief Executive), H. McKay (Consents & Compliance Manager), H. Mills (Planning, Science & Innovation Manager), R. Beal (Operations Director) via Zoom, N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), M. Schumacher (IT Support), The Media (via Zoom)

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

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

There was no public forum.

#### **3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting. Cr Coll McLaughlin requested that a change is made to her comment in the confirmation of the June minutes. She had said that co-funding was definitely required but this does not necessarily have to be via a rating district.

**Moved** (Ewen / Challenger) *that the minutes of the Council meeting dated 11 August 2020, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **REPORTS:**

#### **4.1 OPERATIONS REPORT**

R. Beal took his report as read. He provided a verbal update on work currently being carried out in the Hokitika rating district and stated that a further 2,600 tonne of rock has been placed to add temporary protection due to the acceleration of erosion in this area.

R. Beal reported that extra work has been going into quarries recently with the planning for extra production that is expected as part of the Crown Infrastructure funds which have now been approved. He stated that in view of this the stock pile at the Inchbonnie Quarry has been increased to 10,000 tonnes. R. Beal advised that rock is required for work at Okuru. R. Beal confirmed that rock tally numbers are two months old.

He confirmed that the work currently being undertaken in the Hokitika rating district is under the existing \$0.5M authorisation agreed to by Council last year.

**Moved** (Magner / Cummings) *That the report is received.*

*Carried*

## 4.2. CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGERS MONTHLY REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report and stated this is the unaudited financial results for the 12 months until the end of June. He stated that the surplus is \$2.344. Investment income is below budget due to the impact of the March 2020 market downturn, even though the market fully recovered this loss during the April to June period. R. Mallinson spoke to the rest of his report. He advised that due to Covid-19 impacts on Council, the end of year financials were only recently finalised. R. Mallinson stated that Audit NZ will commence the annual audit on Monday next week.

R. Mallinson reported that the investment portfolio continued its excellent performance during July. R. Mallinson reported that VCS net surplus is \$1.514M which is very good and is \$1M better than expected. The Chairman commented that VCS have done very well with an excellent financial result.

R. Mallinson answered questions from councillors relating to rates, insurance recoveries, capital contributions from rating districts, potential costs and costs recoveries. H. McKay provided additional information relating to cost recoveries in her department. Cr Coll McLaughlin asked if there has been any preliminary discussion as to whether Council will be seeking full cost recovery with regard to some of the new regulations. R. Mallinson responded that it can be argued that there should be recognition of the benefit to the wider community in some of these costs being paid from the general rate rather than to the consent holder. R. Mallinson advised that Council's existing Revenue & Finance Policy doesn't look for 100% cost recovery, as ideally Council should be getting a 60 – 70% cost recovery. He stated that should Council ramp up hourly charge out rates to achieve full cost recovery this would then be a burden on the productive sector.

R. Mallinson confirmed that he will be convening the first meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee before 19 October 2020.

**Moved** (Challenger / Coll McLaughlin) *That the report be received.*

*Carried*

## 5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman reported that he attended a NZTA meeting last week where the 80 km speed limit for parts of the West Coast roading system was discussed. The Chairman stated that he is hopeful of consultation occurring before this comes in. Cr Challenger agreed that consultation is necessary as he feels if the speed limit is to be reduced then why can it not be changed to 90 km per hour for all vehicles and not just trucks. The Chairman advised that a 90 km per hour speed limit was discussed at the meeting limit but this was not agreed to as NZTA advised that the speed limits are 40, 60, 80 and 100 km. Cr Ewen stated a 90 km per hour speed limit would be better than 80 km per hour.

**Moved** (Magner / Cummings) *That this report is received.*

*Carried*

## 6.0 ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE

R. Mallinson reported that he and The Chairman attended the Mayors, Chairs and Iwi forum on 12 August. He attended a meeting on 24 August with R. Beal, S. Bastion and Mayor Smith regarding the Franz Josef and Hokitika infrastructure works.

R. Mallinson reported that he attended the Te Tai o Poutini Committee meetings on 13 and 25 August. He met with Council's insurance brokers regarding the 2021 Renewal Programme on 26 August.

**Moved** Coll McLaughlin / Hill) *that this report is received.*

*Carried*

## 7.1 WEST COAST LIDAR UPDATE – AUGUST 2020

H. Mills spoke to this report and advised that Council received just over \$3M in government funding to capture a digital terrain model of the entire West Coast. H. Mills advised that to date 24% of the region has been captured. Cr Coll McLaughlin stated that it is very useful that there is going to be a focus on educating people about using and accessing the LiDAR data. She stated this will optimize the use of LiDAR data.

**Moved** (Coll McLaughlin / Magner) *That the report is received.*

*Carried*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 12.50

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date