

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 APRIL 2016, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.32 A.M.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), N. Costley (Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. MINUTES

Moved (Robb / Archer) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 8 March 2016, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

Cr Birchfield drew attention to page 2 of the minutes, the section on Council's submission on the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill 2015. Cr Birchfield stated that he disagrees with Council's submission that the ability to insure against RMA fines should be removed. He stated that some of these charges are very high; they have the potential to wipe out a business as legislation liability is the biggest risk to a company.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Ewen reported that it has been a little busier than last month with a number of emails and phone calls mostly in relation to stopbanks.

Moved (Ewen / Archer)

Carried

5. REPORTS

5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

5.1.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGER'S REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that 26 submissions have been received in relation to the Proposed Coastal Plan. He advised that staff are now preparing a summary of submissions.

M. Meehan reported that an unwanted cropping weed called Velvetleaf has made its way into New Zealand via Italy. M. Meehan reported that Council's Biosecurity Officer has been involved with the MPI response to this. He advised that there has only been one confirmed location for Velvetleaf and that is near Ngahere. M. Meehan reported that two phone calls have been received in relation to the article in the Council Newsletter on Yellow Bristle Grass. In both cases it turned out not to be Yellow Bristle Grass but there are two more visits scheduled for Westport and Karamea.

M. Meehan reported that two flood alarms occurred during the reporting period with both being on the Waiho River. He stated that one event between 11.00 pm and 03.00 am 125 – 138 mms of rain fell which is very intense. M. Meehan reported that the Waiho River got to just over 8 metres with warnings being issued for this.

M. Meehan reported that the access to the area where the fishing boat beached at Saltwater Beach in South Westland proved difficult. He stated that Search and Rescue responded quickly and helicoptered off all the fuel and oils on board and ensured there was no discharge. M. Meehan advised that the owner now has a consent to burn the boat and bury the waste in a DoC approved location.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell) *That this report be received.*

Carried

5.1.2 BATHING BEACH WATER QUALITY SAMPLING UPDATE

M. Meehan spoke to this report. He advised that this is one of the best results since monitoring began with only four exceedances into the moderate to high risk category. Two occurred in the Buller area, one at Seven Mile and one in the Grey River at Taylorville. M. Meehan advised that two out of four were associated with heavy rain.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *That this report be received.*

Carried

5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that nine non notified resource consents were granted during the reporting period. He reported that four changes to consent conditions were granted and two limited notified resource consents were granted. C. Ingle reported that the notified consent application for Westland District Council for the Hokitika sewage oxidation ponds was granted on the 8th of April for a ten year term with conditions. Cr Challenger clarified that one of the conditions is that during the ten year period Westland District Council has to devise to do a replacement for the renewal system.

Moved (Challenger / Clementson) *that the April 2016 report of the Consents Group be received.*

Carried

5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that 76 site visits were made during the reporting period. He stated that one formal warning related to dairy effluent, one infringement notice related to dairy cows accessing riparian margins around Lake Poerua and an abatement notice associated with forestry has subsequently been issued an infringement notice as well.

M. Meehan reported that a third case has now gone through Council's alternative justice process with the outcome being a contribution to a community group. He advised that this process is now complete and the charges have been withdrawn in the district court. He answered questions from Councillors relating to the process for alternative justice and other compliance matters.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield)

1. *That the April 2016 report of the Compliance Group be received.*
2. *That the bonds for RC06185 Hampton, RC04137 Whyte Gold, RC07104, RC09039 and RC12186 for Paramount Mining are released.*

Carried

6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

M. Meehan displayed a short video clip put together by LAWA on the progress made in the Lake Brunner catchment. The video clip highlights the extensive work that has been put into improving water quality in this catchment over the past few years. The clip is on the LAWA website.

The meeting closed at 10.52 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date