

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 OCTOBER 2018, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), R. Beal (Operations Manager), H. McKay (Consents & Compliance Manager), H. Mills (Planning Science & Innovation Manager), N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

#### **1. APOLOGY**

**Moved** (Archer / Birchfield) *That the apologies from N. Clementson and F. Tumahai be accepted.*

*Carried*

#### **2. MINUTES**

**Moved** (Challenger / McDonnell) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 11 September 2018, be confirmed as correct, with the amendment listed below made.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters Arising**

Cr Birchfield complained that his verbal challenge to Dr Rob Bell (Coastal Engineer – NIWA) on his presentation about Climate Change and Coastal Hazards was left out of the minutes.

#### **3. PRESENTATION**

There was no presentation.

#### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

There was no Chairman's report due to Cr Clementson's absence.

#### **5. REPORTS**

##### **5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP**

##### **5.1.1 PLANNING REPORT**

H. Mills spoke to this report. He reported that there have been three appeals on the proposed Regional Policy Statement (pRPS), from Heritage NZ, Royal Forrest and Bird Protection Society and the Department of Conservation. H. Mills advised that parts of the RPS that have not being appealed are now operative. He outlined the next steps in the appeals process to the meeting.

H. Mills reported that the selection process for the Grey Freshwater Management Unit (Grey FMU) has been held. He stated that 11 people applied to join and he would now like to appoint seven members to this group with reference checks awaited for one more person.

H. Mills reported that the release of an Order in Council is awaited to give final effect for the One District Plan.

H. Mills spoke to the Productivity Commission Report on low emissions economy, along with the Discussion Documents on changes to Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). He advised that following discussions with an Economist, his advice is that there will not be any large effects on the West Coast in the short term. H. Mills explained the implications to foresters regarding credits and long term management of this industry.

H. Mills answered questions from Councillors relating to the Grey FMU. It was agreed that the names of the members of the Grey FMU would be included in the recommendation. Cr Birchfield stated that he would have liked more time to investigate potential members of this group. H. Mills advised that staff have met the applicants and interviewed the members that were not known to Council and staff are happy with the general interest that the members have and the fact that they are willing to work with other people. The Chairman advised that it is important that there is a range of interest and voices on this group as when the time comes for decision making, informed decisions can be made and challenges and appeals can possibly be avoided. Cr Ewen agreed with Cr Birchfield that he too would have liked more time. M. Meehan asked Crs what more information they would have liked. M. Meehan provided additional information on the successful applicants. Cr McDonnell stated that a summary on each candidate would be helpful for future appointments to these type of groups. It was agreed that this would be the approach in future. Cr Archer stated that he does not doubt that the process has been significant and robust but he is reliant on the recommendations and comments from staff and Councillors who know these people. Cr Robb confirmed that he knows five of the applicants and he is more than happy with these people. H. Mills agreed to bring a summary of each candidate to the next Council meeting.

Cr Archer spoke of the Productivity Commission Report on low emissions economy. He stated that he is concerned about comments in reports about switching fossil fuels to clean electricity and other low emission fuels. He stated that it is well known that there is going to be an increasing demand for energy but nobody is saying where the extra energy is supposed to be coming from. Cr Archer noted that hydro schemes are being denied by Government and there is a huge disconnect between Ministers and at local government level. Cr Birchfield agreed and he feels that government is going to try to tax fossil fuels off the market and force change. He stated that the costs will fall to the ordinary New Zealander. M. Meehan stated that Minister Shaw has been careful with consultation around the Zero Carbon Bill as there were around 15,000 submissions. M. Meehan advised that Council is the avenue into central government and Council did make a submission against the Zero Carbon Act. He stated that there is potential for the West Coast to be impacted dramatically on this.

**Moved** (Birchfield / Ewen)

- 1. That the report is received.*
- 2. That the Council approves the Implementation Team's recommended applicants for membership of the Grey Freshwater Management Unit Group, with members being Dave Waghorn, Sonia Perkins, Stu Bland, Scott Williams, Karen Grant, Trevor Johnston, Jim Gallaway, with the eighth position to be filled at next month's meeting.*

*Carried*

### **5.1.2 WEST COAST GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE – DEFINITION STUDY**

H. Mills spoke to this report and advised that GNS Science is on track with work. He stated that heat mapping has been completed and potential sites for phase 2 are now being narrowed down with areas in the Grey district holding particular interest. H. Mills advised that GNS Science will be holding a workshop here on 18 October. Cr Robb advised that he has a clash with meetings that day and is unable to attend. Crs Ewen, Archer and Challenger expressed interest in attending. H. Mills agreed to send the workshop details to councillors.

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

*Carried*

**5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**

H. McKay spoke to this report and advised that two site visits were carried out, eight non-notified resources consents were granted and three changes of conditions to existing resource consents were granted during the reporting period. She reported that one limited notified resource consent granted during the reporting period.

H. Mills confirmed that the resource consent granted for the Waiho River is a retrospective consent. She answered questions relating to RC-2014-0159-V3.

**Moved** (Archer / Birchfield) *That the October 2018 report of the Consents Group be received.*

*Carried*

**5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

H. McKay spoke to this report. She advised that 45 site visits were carried out during the reporting period. She advised that dairy visits will be commencing shortly at the end of the calving period.

H. McKay reported that 25 complaints / incidents were reported with 19 resulting in site visits.

H. McKay reported that six non-compliances occurred during the reporting period.

She drew attention to the non-compliance section of her report, in the second table relating to the burning of tyres, she advised that only an abatement notice was issued and an infringement notice was not issued with regard to this event.

H. McKay reported that there were a further 19 complaints or incidents reported but were either not found to be non-compliant or not yet determined at the time of reporting.

H. McKay reported that four abatement notices and five infringement notices were issued during the reporting period. 31 mining programmes were received, with all but one of these relating to Stockton. 30 were approved, with one awaiting a site visit. H. McKay reported that two bonds were received.

H. McKay confirmed to Cr Ewen that the incident at Rapahoe earlier in the year was in relation to a campground rubbish fire. H. McKay offered to provide further information on this matter.

**Moved** (Challenger / Birchfield) *That the October 2018 report of the Compliance Group be received.*

*Carried*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.04 a.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date