THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KARAMEA RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE KARAMEA AREA SCHOOL LIBRARY ON MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2004

PRESENT

Darryl Simkin, Graham Maw, Dick Straight, Kevin Storer, Selwyn Lowe,

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Councilors - John Clayton, Ross Scarlett Staff - David Horn, Wayne Moen

APOLOGIES

Bevan Langford, Rick Lowe

BUSINESS

J. Clayton opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved: "That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on the 18 March 2004 were a true and accurate record."

R. Scarlett / D. Simpkin – Carried

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

R. Scarlett asked if letters had been sent out to landowners where stopbanks crossed their properties and potential damage could occur by stock.

D. Horn was unsure if the letters had been sent out, but assumed they had not.

It was pointed out that the letters should cover all stopbanking on the Karamea River. W. Moen undertook to check this out and report back to the Chairman.

He also indicated that an overall inspection of the area was overdue and would coordinate one in the near future to ascertain damage.

D. Straight outlined concerns at the low point in the Maori Point area

FINANCIAL REPORT

W. Moen presented the financial report for the 6-month period 1 January 2004 to 30 June 2004

Moved: "The Financial Report for the period 1 January 2004 to 30 June 2004 be received."

R. Scarlett / K Storer - Carried

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the works report covering the works undertaken up to the 30 June 2004 and predicted works expenditure to 30 June 2005 to the meeting.

He pointed out that an allowance of \$15,000 maintenance should be allowed for the period ending 30 June 2005 and the further 12-month period ending 30 June 2006.

He also suggested a \$25,000 rate strike for the 2005 / 2006 financial year as recommended in the current Asset Management Plan for the Karamea Rating District.

Moved: *"That the works report as presented be approved"*

R Scarlett / K Storer - Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moved: "That the existing committee comprising of: Kevin Storer Darryl Simkin Brian Jones Dick Straight Graham Maw Bevan Langford

be re-elected as the committee"

R Scarlett / D. Straight - Carried

Moved: "That Kevin Storer be re- appointed as spokesperson" R Scarlett / D. Straight - Carried

2005 / 2006 RATE STRIKE

Moved: "That the recommended rate strike for the 2005 / 2006 financial year be \$19,000 plus GST".

R Scarlett / K. Storer - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Wayne Moen pointed out, that in his opinion as a river engineer, that the stopbanking downstream of the Main Highway Bridge was substandard, both in height and width.

He was concerned that in a major flood situation the bank could fail and that the Rating District should make long term plans to strengthen the existing stopbank.

He also advised that it would be very expensive to carry out an upgrade and this would be a direct cost to the ratepayers of the Scheme.

He was advised from those present that the bank had almost overtopped in a previous flood event, but those present also felt they were prepared to accept the risks at the present time.

Kevin Storer thought that the Buller District Council had made an offer to survey the existing stopbank, however nothing had happened.

Wayne Moen undertook to contact Steve Griffen of the Buller District Council to see what, if anything could be done in this regard.

There was a general discussion around what maybe required in the way of protection works in future years.

R. Scarlett felt that the stopbank was adequate and pointed out that in his view the upstream overflow worked perfectly under flood conditions. This was endorsed by Dick Straight.

Wayne Moen used the Grey River flood recalculations as an example of increased flood magnitudes since structures were built and advised that ratepayers should keep a close watch on future flood events to gauge developments in increased flood activity.

Wayne Moen also asked if the local community was comfortable with the level of hydrological information being supplied both prior to and during flood events.

It was generally felt by all locals present that if a further recorder station was constructed at the upstream "Big Bend" of the Karamea River that this would give them a 5 - 6 hour warning rather than the 2 - 2.5 hour warning time as at present.

It was also mentioned that any potential "trouble spots" or weaknesses in the stopbank structure could be discussed when an inspection took place in the future.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.35pm.

Wayne Moen Senior Engineering Officer 5 November 2004