

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KARAMEA RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE KARAMEA FIRE STATION ON 18 OCTOBER 2012, COMMENCING AT 1.00 PM.

PRESENT

R. Barton, B. Langford, J. Beveridge, M. Lowe, D. Straight, L. Kees, R. Anderson, P. McClintock, R. Horrell, P. Langford, P. Sampson, J. Colville, W. Alber, G. Johnston, M. Watt, B. Jones, P. Moynihan, B. Lodge, D. Simkin (1.15 pm), G. Volckman, D. Rhind

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
T. Archer, R. Scarlett (Councillor)
C. Ingle (CEO), W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

Cr Scarlett, H & M Macbeth, S. Lowe, K. Beveridge

B. Langford / R. Anderson - Carried

BUSINESS

T. Archer opened the meeting and welcomed those present. He introduced himself and the Council staff.

It was confirmed that all present are members of the Karamea Rating District.

Moved: *"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 25 October 2011, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

P. Moynihan / B. Lodge - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising. Last year's action points were updated. W. Moen advised that the cross section information that was requested is included in the report. The matter of the trees for removal on the stopbank is also included in the report. W. Moen advised that he has done the updated map of the stopbanks and groynes for B. Langford. W. Moen sent the aerial photograph of the Karamea river mouth to R. Barton as requested. C. Ingle advised that G. Smart was contacted after last year's meeting to prioritise what the main action points from his report were. C. Ingle advised that B. Langford has a copy of this. C. Ingle stated that this is now well underway.

FINANCIAL REPORT

W. Moen spoke to this report. He advised that the opening balance at 1 July 2011 was \$117,683.30 and the closing balance at 30 June 2012 was \$29,331.47. W. Moen advised that the main expense during the reporting period was the construction of the new stopbank at The Last Resort, which was \$97,254.80 for the contractors. W. Moen advised that \$25,000 which is half of the rate strike is due into the account this week. P. Sampson drew attention to the \$15,345 worth of staff time and asked if there is a breakdown of this. W. Moen advised that this information is not usually provided at the annual meeting but he can provide this information if requested. Cr Archer advised that the rating district pays for all staff time relating to work done in the rating district. C. Ingle advised that a breakdown of the staff time could be provided. Both P. Sampson and

R. Barton agreed this would be good to see especially when there has been a lot more money spent than in previous years. W. Moen stated that he spent time on applying for resource consent, drawing up of contracts, supervision of contracts and final sign off inspections.

Moved: *"That the financial report for the 2011 / 2012 year be adopted".*
P. Langford / R. Barton - Carried

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen spoke to this report. He advised that a total of \$97,254.80 worth of work was carried out during the reporting period. W. Moen advised that \$5,298 is for the cost of the culvert.

W. Moen advised that as a result of an inspection carried out on the 30th of July with the committee, \$20,000 worth of works were identified. He stated that \$10,000 of these works is on G. Volckman's property and the \$10,000 is for the removal of trees from the stopbank and for repairs to any damaged batters on the Karamea River. It was asked if the removal of roots of the trees is included in the proposed works. W. Moen responded that P. Birchfield (Engineering Officer) has GPS'd all the trees on the stopbank and where the roots interfere with the structure of the stopbank they will be removed. C. Ingle advised that there has been discussion on what constitutes a tree and if the roots have gone right through then the wall may need to be repaired as well. C. Ingle advised that P. Birchfield has looked at what problems trees cause for stopbanks. C. Ingle advised that the worse problem for the banks is with plants on the riverward side but if the plants are on the landward side it is not so bad. He stated that if a plant is not more than a metre high and is on the landward side then it is not such a problem. C. Ingle advised that the areas will be prioritised and the trees requiring removal will be done over the next few years. P. Langford asked what is the point in taking out the pine trees near the river mouth if they are not flooding anybody's property. W. Moen stated that he has not looked at this area recently. C. Ingle that the idea was to work from the bridge down and this area would be left until last unless the landowner decides to take them out himself.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2011 / 2012 financial year be adopted.*
- 2. That the 2012 / 2013 works proposals be approved. "*

B. Langford P. McClintock – Carried

RATES 2013 / 2014

W. Moen advised that with the proposed works and the rate \$50,000 previously struck for the 2012 / 2013 year the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2013 / 2014 financial year is likely to be \$61,000 GST Excl.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the rate strike for the 2013 / 2014 financial Year is \$50,000 (GST Excl)."

G. Volckman / D. Simkin – Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Cr Archer read out the names of the current committee. He advised that in the apology letter from the Macbeth's, Margaret Macbeth indicated that she would like to be re-elected

to the committee. He asked if there were any additions to the committee. It was agreed that the existing committee would be reappointed.

Moved: *"That the present committee
Darryl Simkin
Brian Jones
Margaret Macbeth
Roger Barton
Bevan Langford
be retained as the committee for the 2012 / 2013 financial year."*
P. Moynihan / B. Lodge - Carried

Moved: *"That B. Langford be elected as the spokesperson for the 2012 /
2013 financial year."*
D. Straight / R. Barton - Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

Cross Section Report

W. Moen advised that the results of the cross section report shows that there is a slight build up in the Karamea River between the township and The Last Resort area. There is a loss in gravel between The Last Resort and the main road bridge and then a slight build up immediately above the main road bridge and then a general erosion upstream to Elphin Bluff. W. Moen advised that this equates to a general build up over whole length of about 78,000 cubic metres in the last three years. He stated that in Council's view this small amount of gravel build up does not pose any significant change to the overall level of flood protection of the Karamea area. W. Moen explained the method of surveying to the meeting and stated that cross sections are just a snap shot in time and they could change next week. W. Moen advised that cross sections are done every three years unless there is a major concern.

Macbeth Letter

Cr Archer read from the Macbeth's letter. The Macbeth's would like earlier notification of the annual meeting. It was noted that the meetings are around the same time each year and are publicly advertised. The Macbeth's stated in their letter that they are opposed to resource consent put forward by the Kongahu rating district for the clearance of the top end of the Otumahana Estuary as they believe this would be too expensive. The Macbeth's stated that they would be opposed to the Kongahu rating district seeking funding from the Karamea rating district or the West Coast Regional Council. The Macbeth's would like the consent to be partially or fully notified. Cr Archer advised the partial or full notification is not a matter for a rating district to decide but a decision that is determined by council. C. Ingle confirmed that the Kongahu rating district has applied for a consent to extend the existing channel out into the estuary from Blackwater Creek. C. Ingle advised that H. Macbeth is confused with the other consent application, which got started and then put on hold, which was for the cleaning out of Granite Creek. C. Ingle stated that he has already advised H. Macbeth that the current consent is nothing to do with Granite Creek. H. Macbeth stated in his letter that he is willing to put any information from the rating district onto the Karamea website.

Granite Creek

A speaker asked if there has been any progress on the Granite Creek clean out. W. Moen responded that there was discussion on this at the Kongahu meeting this morning. W. Moen believes it should be cleaned out. There has not been any analysis done on how

much gravel is moving through this system. B. Jones stated costs for surveying to date have been borne by the Kongahu rating district. W. Moen stated it would be better to spend money cleaning out the creek rather than surveying. D. Simkin asked if Buller District Council realises there is a problem in this area. W. Moen stated that they realise there is a problem and if they could get some NZTA funding then they would consider this clean out. W. Moen stated that Vine Creek is similar and every year 2.5 kms is cleared. C. Ingle advised that Vine Creek costs about \$45,000 per year to keep clear but this is a different type of material as Vine Creek backs onto the Southern Alps. P. Langford stated that the gravel from Granite Creek makes good hardfill. C. Ingle stated that one theory was to build up the banks to stop the floods from spilling out onto the road. It was suggested that this might put more pressure on the main road. P. Langford stated that the creek has settled down considerably but the problem is there is not enough flow because the mouth is blocked so the clearance would need to start at the mouth. G. Volckman stated that the Kongahu rating district would be keen to know if there was financial support from the Karamea rating district. Various speakers stated that they would support this idea.

R. Barton asked what is DoC's attitude to this. W. Moen stated that DoC has asked for an ecological report on the estuary area, which has now been done.

P. Sampson stated that this could be very expensive and the original purpose of the Karamea rating district was to maintain existing works. He feels that the opening of the mouth of Granite Creek will involve ongoing maintenance and this is a major departure of the reason the rating district was set up.

Moved: *"That the Karamea Rating District supports in financial principle, the opening of the mouth of Granite Creek."*

D. Simkin / P. Langford - Carried

B. Lodge, P. Sampson, D. Straight, P. Sampson are against the motion

P. Sampson feels that a re-classification of the Karamea rating district may need to be considered as those near Granite Creek should be classed as Class A. A speaker asked how would a new rating classification be defined. P. Sampson stated by those whose homes are on the banks of the river. C. Ingle stated that there is no proposal yet and until there is then we don't know who the main beneficiaries are.

D. Straight stated that he thinks that it is a good idea to move the mouth of Granite Creek. B. Jones stated that this has been looked at before and it was felt that it would make no difference. Cr Archer stated that Graeme Smart had addressed this as well.

G. Volckman stated that the Oparara river mouth is moving south by about 1 – 2 kms. He asked what process would need to be followed to put the mouth back to where it originally was. Cr Archer responded that Council had identified a number of small rivers throughout the region, over the last couple of years, that are able to have the river mouth reinstated back to the original mouth under the permitted activity rule. Cr Archer stated that the Oparara was not one of those rivers and a resource consent would be required for this river. C. Ingle stated if people were affected badly by the Oparara river mouth then something could be done but this would be costly. C. Ingle stated that river mouths are very difficult to manage and they cause trouble up and down the coast. C. Ingle advised G. Volckman that there is a Coastal Plan Review coming up and he could see if the Oparara could be added in. Cr Archer advised that it would make sense to raise this matter with the rating district committee. G. Volckman stated he thought that a digger could have gone out and opened it up to save a stitch in time. Cr Archer advised that there is no mechanism to allow for this as it is only the specific river that has been included in permitted activity rule. He advised that there is still the mechanism under the emergency works provision for councils to undertake and then apply for retrospective consent but this is only where it affects council infrastructure.

T. Archer thanked the meeting for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.30 p.m.

Action Points

- W. Moen to provide break down of staff time to the Spokesperson.
- C. Ingle to investigate getting the Oparara River included in the permitted activity rule via the Coastal Plan Review.