

**THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE**  
**KONGAHU RATING DISTRICT**  
**HELD AT THE LITTLE WANGANUI HOTEL**  
**ON 17 OCTOBER 2008, COMMENCING AT 11.05 AM**

**PRESENT**

F. Bjerring, B. Bjerring, L. Kees, G. Volckman (arrived 11.08)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

West Coast Regional Council

R. Scarlett (Councillor)

C. Ingle, (CEO)

W. Moen (Staff)

T. Jellyman (Staff)

**APOLOGIES**

B. Jones, S. McGregor, R. Hedgman, K. Kees

*L. Kees / B. Bjerring - Carried*

**BUSINESS**

R. Scarlett opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

He introduced himself and the Council staff.

**Moved:**        ***"That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 25 September 2007, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."***

*G. Volckman / L. Kees - Carried*

**MATTERS ARISING**

A letter from B. Jones stating his wish to have Granite Creek cleared of gravel was read to the meeting. W. Moen has looked at the creek with B. Jones with a view to clearing willows. C. Ingle advised that there is a resource consent in place for pruning overhanging branches and is currently in year four of fifteen year consent. It was agreed that it is not practical to clear Granite Creek, as it would be a never-ending task due to the amount of gravel coming down. It was agreed that W. Moen would inspect Granite Creek to ascertain where to from here. C. Ingle asked how many ratepayers are affected by rising water levels. It was agreed that survey levels would be arranged to establish how much the levels in Granite Creek have changed and how they affect the performance of the drainage scheme. Murray Watts should be used for the survey work as he lives at Granite Creek.

L. Kees raised the matter of aerial spraying by Anderson Helicopters. He stated that W. Moen had not contacted Mr Anderson. W. Moen disagreed, but suggested the later timing of spraying seemed to work well in any case.

G. Volckman agreed that the later timing of spraying last year (March) worked well and was effective. It was agreed that the spraying would be arranged for March and to be part of Anderson's normal circuit. C. Ingle agreed to investigate whether Torpedo Gel could be used for killing aquatic weeds in the drain. Mr Volckman agreed to advise Mrs Hedgman when the helicopter will be in the area.

Discussion about which drains are in the scheme took place. W. Moen agreed to post out the original drain plans. The rating district is to take out the drains which aren't applicable for treatment.

L. Kees asked why did it take so long to get the letter out regarding disposing of old logs when humping and hollowing, as he didn't get his letter until March. C. Ingle apologised for this delay. G. Volckman stated that H. McBeth's name was left out of last year's minutes. He was at the meeting but he is not a ratepayer in this scheme area. R. Scarlett stated it is up to the meeting to decide who speaks. C. Ingle advised that rating district meetings are a public meeting so anyone can attend, but only ratepayers within the scheme have voting rights. R. Scarlett asked if they have speaking rights, C. Ingle said not unless there is a public forum then they need to request speaking rights prior to the meeting.

## **FINANCIAL MINUTES**

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2008. This left the account with an up-to-date credit balance of approximately \$51,282.54.

**Moved:** ***"That the financial report for the 2007 / 2008 year be adopted".***

*G. Volckman / F. Bjerring - Carried*

## **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## **WORKS REPORT**

W. Moen presented the detailed works report, which covered the 12-month period; 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008. W. Moen did not undertake an inspection this year but spoke to G. Volckman on the phone when it was agreed that no additional works were required. The estimated works for 2008 / 2009 are \$8,500.00 which includes spraying. L. Kees stated that he wasn't asked if he required works to be done on his land. He advised that he has a drain on the back road of the Kongahu Swamp that he had asked to be inspected following last year's meeting. This wasn't done; L. Kees requested that this drain be cleared.

R. Scarlett suggested that more coordination is needed between those in the scheme to ensure works aren't carried out in a piecemeal fashion. G. Volckman stated that he is the spokesperson and that those who have work required should contact him so that he can inform W. Moen of proposed works. G. Volckman stated that for as long as he has been involved with the scheme whenever anyone has requested works they have been done.

It was agreed that W. Moen would send out a letter with a map enclosed to ratepayers in the next few weeks asking if they require any drains to be cleared over the coming year.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That the Works Report covering the 2007 / 2008 financial year be adopted.***
- 2. That the 2008 / 2009 works proposals be approved.***

*F. Bjerring / G. Volckman – Carried*

## **RATES 2009 / 2010**

Discussion ensued regarding the rate strike. G. Volckman stated that the drains are stabilising and spraying is working well along with the occasional clean out of the drains as mentioned by L. Kees. G. Volckman stated that he feels there is no reason for the rate strike to be higher than it currently is. He stated that with Council sending out a letter asking the rating district what works they require this will give them a good indication of how much they need to set

aside for the rate strike each year. L. Kees confirmed he is happy hold the rate strike at \$7,600.00 for this year.

**RECOMMENDATION**

***"That the rate strike for the 2009 / 2010 financial Year is \$7,600.00 (GST Excl)."***

*G. Volckman / F. Bjerring – Carried*

W. Moen stated that if work is carried out and the rating district is not happy with the standard then he needs to know immediately, prior to the account being paid.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Moved:** ***"That G. Volckman be re-elected as the spokesperson and that the committee comprise of all ratepayers for the 2008 / 2009 financial year."***

*B. Bjerring / F. Bjerring - Carried*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

B. Bjerring raised the matter of the fencing of drains and also the importance of stock being kept off the stopbanks. C. Ingle advised that having stock on stopbanks does keep the vegetation down but care needs to be taken that the stopbank is not overstocked. He stated that it is important that stock is kept out of the waterways. C. Ingle clarified the current RMA rules, which state that stock do not cause significant pugging, or erosion or land instability within 5 metres of any creek edge.

It was agreed it leave this matter until next year and to notify the rating district that further discussion will take place at the next annual meeting.

It was agreed that a letter would be written to B. Jones outlining the analysis that will be carried out on Granite Creek and thanking him for absorbing the cost of the floodgate.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

**Action Points for follow up**

<b>Contact</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>W. Moen</b>	Ask Murray Watts to do survey levels in Granite Creek and related areas.	
<b>W. Moen</b>	Send plan of drains to Ratepayers to mark areas that do not need spraying and ensure spraying is arranged to work in with Kevin Anderson's circuit.	
<b>W. Moen</b>	Send out a letter with a map attached to ratepayers this November to see what drain clearing works are required this coming February, and thereafter in June/July for works required the following year.	
<b>C. Ingle</b>	Investigate to see if Torpedo Gel is suitable for use in this area	
<b>T. Jellyman</b>	Ensure stock grazing on stopbanks and fencing is on agenda for next years meeting.	