

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KOWHITIRANGI RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE KOWHITIRANGI HALL, KOWHITIRANGI ON FRIDAY, 12 APRIL 2002 COMMENCING AT 11.30 P.M.

PRESENT

R. Cagney, J. Michell, R. Love, P. Cook, D. Amberger, S. Anderson, W. Von Ah,
G. Monk, F. van den Boomer, C. Harris, G. Lange, T. Burden, G. Scott, B. Godfrey,
A. Cook, J. Paterson

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
J. Wood, J. Clayton, D. Davidson (Councilors)
R. Lowe & W. Moen (Staff)

APOLOGIES

M. Paterson, D. Burden, T. Sheridan, K. Nolan, D. Wells, N. Monk, S. Keenan

BUSINESS

J. Wood opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved: *“That the minutes of the previous Annual General meeting held on 6 April 2001, be adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.”*

R. Cagney / G. Monk – Carried

MATTERS ARISING

W. Moen outlined the proposed updated classification and pointed out that the reclassification would be advertised for comment from individual ratepayers and would be passed by special order process at the July 2002 meeting of Council.

C. Harris asked what would be the procedure for any appeals.

R. Lowe explained that there was a legal appeal process to follow if this eventuated.

FINANCIAL MINUTES

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the 2001 financial period from 1 July 2001 to 31 December 2001.

Moved: *“That the Financial Report for the 2001 financial period ending 31 December 2001 be adopted.”*

J. Paterson / C. Harris – Carried

MATTERS ARISING

W. Moen explained that the 50% share of the Vine Creek work had been omitted from page 2 of the 2001 works report, but was included in the financial report.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moved: ***“That S. Keenan be re-elected as Chairperson for the 2002 / 2003 financial year.”***

G. Monk/ W. Von Ah – Carried

Moved: ***“That the current committee be re-elected for the 2002 / 2003 financial year”.***

G. Monk / W. Von Ah – Carried

RATES 2002 / 2003

C. Harris gave a verbal on the state of works and reported that most of the works were in good state.

G. Monk suggested that some minor works on his frontage required attention.

Groyne #28 required 50 – 60 tonnes, groyne #27 required 70 tonnes and a small amount was required upstream of groyne #28.

C. Harris sought clarification on legal river access.

W. Moen thought that the bank was legalized but was unsure on the access roading.

W. Moen would investigate and report back.

G. Monk sought clarification on the resource consent for scheme works.

C. Harris agreed that the consent should be reviewed.

Moved: ***“That the rates strike for the 2002 / 2003 financial year be set at \$10,000 + GST.”***

J. Paterson / C. Harris – Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

J. Wood opened discussion on the future of the Council’s quarries and asked R. Lowe To speak.

R. Lowe outlined the current situation pointing out the cross subsidization of some smaller less used quarries by the larger, more financial ones. This benefited all ratepayers on the West Coast so that an “equalized” rock pricing structure of \$4.50 per tonne could be implemented.

It was also explained that due to a lack of rock output over the last 2 years, the Council’s quarrying operations had run at a small deficit and it was also pointed out that the quarry operations normally ran on a “break even” basis.

J. Clayton explained that rock prices in other parts of New Zealand paid up to \$30 per tonne of rock. This was based on a profit making or commercial basis, as suggested by some councilors.

When asked what the true cost of rock recovery was from the Camelback Quarry, R. Lowe explained that the costs varied from between \$3 to \$7 per tonne, depending on output.

J. Paterson asked how profitable Camelback Quarry actually was?

R. Lowe felt that it was one of the more profitable quarries on the West Coast.

C. Harris felt that the ratepayers of the Kokatahi / Kowhitirangi area should have first priority to rock from the quarry.

J. Clayton felt that a “generalized” price was more manageable than an individualised one.

J. Wood felt that the Council should not be involved in owning or administering quarries.

G. Monk was adamant that quarries should not be “privatized” as that led to monopolies developing and rock prices increasing astronomically.

He suggested that the Kowhitirangi Rating District could take over the quarry licence.

W. Moen explained that as a sub committee of Council, the rating district was unable to do this.

C. Harris felt that as the West Coast Regional Council had a statutory role overseeing the activities of river protection on the coast, they should also be able to guarantee the plentiful supply of rock. This could only be achieved by owning and operating the quarries.

The general consensus of the meeting was that the Council should continue to own and operate the quarries to the benefit of the ratepayers.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12.24 p.m.

W. Moen
Senior Engineering Officer