

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN INFORMAL MEETING OF THE LOWER WAIHO RATING DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE RUBBISH DUMP STOPBANK ON 22 AUGUST 2012, COMMENCING AT 11.00 A.M.

PRESENT

R. Richards, L. Richards, R. Molloy, N. Frendrup, Frendrup, C. Brookes, R. Quaiffe, P. Dennehy, T. Bruning,

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
W. Moen (Staff)

APOLOGIES

P. Halford.

BUSINESS

W. Moen opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

He introduced himself and advised the purpose of this meeting is to discuss:

- a) The proposed Rubbish Dump to Rata Knoll link stopbank and
- b) The current non – freeboard situation on the existing Rubbish Dump stopbank

a) Rubbish Dump to Rata Knoll Link Bank

W. Moen explained that one of the action points following the annual meeting held in October 2011 was to report back with possible estimates for the link bank.

He outlined the flooding potential of the exposed gap area pointing out that it was the only unprotected section of river bank between Canavans Knob and Rata Knoll and explained the potential damage to downstream properties in the event of a shift in the Waiho River alignment.

R. Richards told those present that the main Waiho River channel was now directed at this area and that it was only a matter of time before extensive damage occurred.

He also explained that to date that the area had not been exposed to a major flood event.

W. Moen presented a brief report outlining two possible routes for a new stopbank.

He explained that the intention of the meeting was to make the committee aware of the potential problem and to give them time to consider the issue in advance of the upcoming Annual Meeting in October.

R. Quaiffe and C. Brookes felt that any work was unaffordable and therefore should not proceed.

R. Richards and R. Molloy felt that the potential problem and effects on the Lower Waiho Flat area could not be ignored and should be seriously considered before scrapping any proposal.

The majority of people present felt that the options should be circulated to the ratepayers prior to the Annual meeting.

b) Existing Rubbish Dump Stopbank

W. Moen outlined the problems associated with the current location of the main channel of the Waiho River being directed towards the south and adjacent to the existing stopbank.

R. Richards gave a brief description of the recent works and the fact the existing structure had been "overtopped" by recent flows.
He emphasised that he was very concerned given that the last event was not a flood event and stated that he had been advocating a major upgrade of the stopbank for many years.
He felt that it was no longer prudent the wait for such and upgrade.

W. Moen pointed out that it may never be cheaper from a cost point-of-view than now given a perceived downturn in contracting works and suggested that competitive quotes would possibly be cheaper than anticipated.

R. Quaiffe felt that any major upgrade works were unaffordable and W. Moen explained that the consequences of ignoring the previous water levels indicated that serious consideration must be given to a major upgrade of the structure in order to maintain a reasonable level of protection to the ratepayers of the area.

When asked for costings of such an upgrade he said that the stopbank would have to be surveyed and a design carried out in order to calculate final quantities and costs.
He added that he suspected that the current stopbank would need to be raised by approximately 2.00 metres vertically to give a reasonable standard of protection.
He also pointed out that this height was dependant on the adjacent bed levels.

He estimated that it would cost in the vicinity of \$4,000 to \$5,000 to carry out a survey and calculations.

T. Bruning and R. Molloy asked if this exercise could be carried out before the Annual Meeting in October 2012.

W. Moen was confident that if he was given the approval today he should be able to have the information available at the Annual meeting.

All present agreed that this initial design work should be carried out.

Moved:

That Council be requested to have the survey work and design work carried out as soon as possible so that accurate costings can be presented at the Annual Meeting in October 2012.

***R. Molloy / T. Bruning
(Unanimous)***

Other Business

N. Frendrup sought advice on voting rights at meetings.

W. Moen said that he would investigate and that advice would be given at the Annual meeting

W. Moen thanked those present for their attendance and stated that a positive outcome has been achieved.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.30pm

Action Points for follow up

- W. Moen to arrange for a survey and design of the existing Rubbish Dump bank prior to the Annual meeting.