

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OKURU RATING DISTRICT HELD AT THE OKURU HALL ON 14 OCTOBER 2009, COMMENCING AT 3.05 PM

PRESENT

D. Gordon, A. Gordon, G. Anderson, A. Anderson, C. Goom, R. Snow, H. Rasmusson, I. Rasmussen, S. Johnston (arrived 3.15pm), G. Brown (arrived 3.17pm)

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
B. Chinn (Councillor), D. Davidson (Councillor)
S. Moran, W. Moen, T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

C. Hahn

R. Snow / A. Gordon - Carried

BUSINESS

Cr D. Davidson 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 15 October 2008, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."*

G. Anderson / A. Anderson - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

W. Moen advised that he has checked the conditions on the Infinity Wall resource consent. He advised that Westland District Council have an easement agreement in place which allows for public access to the wall. A. Gordon asked if the Infinity Wall is to be maintained by Westland District Council, W. Moen confirmed this is correct. S. Moran clarified that an engineer's design would have been obtained for resource consent for the building of this wall therefore it is expected that it is built to this design in order for it to comply with the consent conditions. S. Moran advised there is no guarantee that they are going to maintain the wall but in view of the subdividing taking place behind it then he would expect that those involved would be keen to maintain the wall. S. Moran stated that if they are not keen on maintaining the wall then those involved may wish to consider creating a rating district to cover the maintenance of this wall. D. Gordon asked if the two walls are joined together, W. Moen confirmed that this is a continuation of the existing wall except the first half will belong to the rating district and the second part will be privately owned. D. Gordon asked if insurance would be the same, W. Moen advised that it is up to the owners to insure the second part of the wall as it is privately owned. S. Moran advised that as long as the Infinity wall is of a similar design to the rating district wall then there should be no difference between the two as they should both be built to the same standard. S. Moran advised that the original consent for the rating district wall was for another couple of hundred metres to be added upstream but because the walls overlap, Council on behalf of the rating district, had to surrender the extra two hundred metres. This was done on the basis of if the Infinity wall wasn't completed within five years then Council would be able to take over the resource consent so that we have not lost anything if there is still concern with the sea coming in around the wall, then we would still have the ability to build the extension. A. Gordon asked

if S. Moran had any idea when this would happen. S. Moran advised that the resource consent has been granted and they have five years to get on with it.

H. Rasmussen asked if planting could be done on the seawall. W. Moen stated that planting can spread the rock and he does not encourage planting on a seawall.

FINANCIAL MINUTES

W. Moen presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2009. He advised the current credit balance is \$17,815.15.

Moved: ***"That the financial report for the 2008 / 2009 year be adopted".***

R. Snow / C. Goom – Carried

WORKS REPORT

W. Moen presented the 2008 / 2009 works report. He carried out an inspection on 29 July 2009 and advised that no maintenance works were identified. W. Moen advised that it would be prudent to allow \$5,000 for unforeseen maintenance.

W. Moen advised that some concern was voiced that the spraying done by Spiers Contracting Ltd in May was not that successful. W. Moen spoke to the contractor and the contractor has offered to do this spraying again free of charge. G. Anderson stated that the spray used was very slow acting. It was agreed that the repair work done in January for the core replacement was a job well done and there are no longer any leaks.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Works Report covering the 2008 / 2009 financial year be adopted.

2. That the 2009 / 2010 works proposals be approved.

A. Gordon / A. Anderson – Carried

RATES 2010 / 2011

W. Moen advised that with the proposed works and the rate of \$15,000 previously struck for the 2009 / 2010 year the balance in the rating district account at the beginning of the 2010 / 2011 year is likely to be \$28,000. W. Moen advised that the recommended rate strike for 2010 / 2011 is \$15,000 (GST Excl). He spoke of the importance of building up a reserve in the rating district account. G. Anderson stated that the wall is holding up well and he feels that the rate strike could be reduced down to \$10,000. Discussion ensued regarding previous rate strikes. D. Gordon asked how many properties contribute to the rating district. T. Jellyman advised that there are 46 ratepayers in the Okuru Rating District.

RECOMMENDATION

"That the rate strike for the 2010 / 2011 financial Year is \$10,000 (GST Excl)."

G. Anderson / G. Brown – Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

T. Jellyman read out the names of the current rating district committee. S. Moran asked if anyone present would like to be on the committee or if anyone would like to come off the committee. It was agreed that the status quo would remain for 2009 / 2010.

Moved: *"That the committee for the 2009 / 2010 financial year now consists of:*

*G. Anderson
A. Anderson
A. Gordon
C. Goom
R. Snow
S. Johnston*

C. Goom / R. Snow – Carried

Moved: *"That G. Anderson be re-elected as the spokesperson with A. Anderson elected as Deputy Spokesperson for the 2009 / 2010 financial year."*

A. Gordon / C. Goom – Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

C. Goom stated that the Turnbull River is eating into the bank, he asked if this is part of the rating district and if so who would be responsible for works. W. Moen stated that the landowner is responsible for works in this area.

A. Gordon asked what channel needs to be taken in order to get DoC to contribute towards rates as 89% of the land owned on the West Coast is owned by DoC. A. Gordon stated that 11% of ratepayers pay the rest of the amount which keeps things going. Cr Davidson advised that Council had approached the government on this issue and as a result the rates inquiry was progressed. The Government advised Council that there was no way DoC would contribute, as this is Crown Land. Cr Davidson stated this was the previous government's stance. He advised the meeting to approach the district councils on this matter. Cr Chinn stated that it is recognised in government circles that this system cannot carry on.

G. Anderson stated that it is swinging slowly. S. Moran stated that as a result of the Rates Inquiry, Council made strong statements about DoC contributing towards the rates within the region. The Commission picked up this aspect and they did this issue justice in their report to Government but once the issue got to government it was ignored. Cr Davidson stated that because of the amount of money involved the government would not look at this at all.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.35 pm.