

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING HELD AT THE PUNAKAIKI SEAWALL ON TUESDAY, 10 APRIL 2012, COMMENCING AT 9.00 AM.

PRESENT

G. Beynon, I. Ryder, A. Beynon, J. Lightfoot,

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
W. Moen (Staff)

BUSINESS

W. Moen opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

He explained that he had requested a meeting with the Spokesperson to keep him updated and informed of the tonnages carted for the work to date.

I. Ryder (Deputy) and G. and A Beynon were also present.

W. Moen explained that MBD Contracting Ltd. had carted and placed 2,200 tonnes of rock up to and including "knock – off" on Thursday evening, 5 April 2012.

This had ensured that the 3 main slumpage areas had been reinforced prior to the works ceasing for the Easter weekend.

This equated to an expenditure of \$48,400 (G.S.T. Exclusive) to date.

W. Moen explained that there were still areas of slumpage which required "topping up" and the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the options and the potential additional costs to the rating district if this work was to be carried out.

I. Ryder stated that the necessary remedial works should continue as the wall could not be left in an unfinished state, given the magnitude and severity of inundation during the Easter weekend.

When asked for a completed estimate, W. Moen estimated a total maximum of 4,000 tonnes be allowed for to complete the works.

J. Lightfoot, G. Beynon, A. Beynon and I Ryder unanimously agreed that the decision be made to allow for this level of expenditure (i.e. a maximum of \$88,000 (G.S.T. Exclusive) to be utilized at this time.

W. Moen agreed to report back to J. Lightfoot and I. Ryder prior to the contractors leaving.

It was pointed out to W. Moen that the seawall was subject to serious wave overtopping at high tide on Saturday 7 April 2012.

Wave action had overtopped the seawall extensively along Dickinson Paraded, resulting in the destruction of several front fences of the nearest properties, deposition of large amounts of small rocks on adjacent properties and the closure of Dickinson Parade to all traffic due to extensive rock debris disbursement.

Although there had been no major storm event at the time, it was pointed out that the sea surge was the result of one of the annual highest tides (3.5 metres - Middy) for the year.

Upon inspection it was evident that the work carried out during the previous week had not moved significantly and a vote of thanks was expressed to W. Moen and the contractors for the swift action taken to ensure that the work had started within a very tight timeframe.

It was felt that had this work not been undertaken at the time, the structurability of the seawall could have been severely compromised and property threatened.

W. Moen explained that the results of the recent cross sectional surveys showed that the beach had cut vertically by between 2 – 2.8 metres over the last 12 month period (south of Owen Street) and this posed a long - term problem if additional sand "build-up" was not forthcoming in the short term.

He reinforced this by again explaining that the slumping had mainly been due to the undercutting of the beach profile, which resulted in the slumping of the "toe" rock and subsequently the slumping of the main rockwork.

All committee members present were happy with the quality of rock that was being supplied.

Further discussion took place on the situation and the decision from those Committee members present, was repeated that the 4,000 tonnes maximum rock tonnage limit be unanimously endorsed.

G. Beynon sought clarification on the current state of the Punakaiki Rating District's account.

W. Moen again explained that the Council would fund any perceived shortfall in the interim, however said that any deficit carried by any rating district would normally accrue overdraft interest rates as long as the account was in "overdraft".

He also indicated that the ratepayers should re-evaluate their level of future maintenance rating to cover such an occurrence and that Council could review possible future annual rates in order to "rebuild" the account back up to a sustainable level.

W. Moen indicated that a brief "newsletter" to all Punakaiki ratepayers, setting out the current situation would assist in keeping all parties informed of developments and expenditure to date.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.30a.m.

Action Point:

- W. Moen to prepare a newsletter to all ratepayers.