

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 9 MAY 2006, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.56 A.M.

PRESENT:

J. Clayton (Chairman), B. Chinn, D. Shannahan, D. Davidson, P. Ewen, R. Scarlett.

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), A. Macalister – (Arrived at 11.57 a.m. and departed at 12.30 p.m.) (Vector Programme Manager), S. Moran (Planning and Environmental Manager), C. Dall (Consents & Compliance Manager), J. Butcher (Minutes Clerk), The Media.

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM (if required)

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Davidson/Ewen) That the minutes of the Council Meeting 11 April 2006 be confirmed as correct.

Carried

Moved (Davidson/Shannahan) That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting 28 April 2006 be confirmed as correct.

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. REPORTS:

4.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS

S. Moran presented this report.

Cr. Clayton asked if Council staff were confident that the Quarries Improvement Notice conditions would be met in the appropriate timeframe. S. Moran indicated that there would be an update by the end of this month and a final draft by 21 June 2006.

Cr. Clayton questioned how the information collected from the Karamea Survey Cross-sections will be used. S. Moran answered that this information will be combined with the flood-level information from the gorge, and used to work out the service requirements.

Cr. Chinn requested decorative rock prices and amounts removed from the Wanganui Quarry. S. Moran indicated that he could find and pass on this information. Councillors embarked on a prolonged discussion about the current status of the quarries in general, rock prices, better

management, staffing, exact confirmation of the rock removed, billing processes and the transition to the Vector Control Services. Cr. Scarlett requested that the quarry report should reflect decorative rock quantities sold monthly.

Moved (Davidson/Chinn) That Council receive this report.

Carried

4.2 VECTOR PROGRAMME MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Macalister presented this report, with an update of eight current performance failures. A. Macalister indicated that this is a continuing trend and might jeopardise getting the 2005/2006 programme delivered on time. A. Macalister also indicated that the first tender round for 2006/2007 has more than doubled the number of tenders received, giving more choice, better performance and more competitive pricing.

Cr. Clayton asked for an overview of the reasons for the performance failures. A. Macalister reiterated that increased monitoring quantity and better quality of systems is part of the reasoning, also stating that a Contractor can fail three times before being replaced with no payment.

Councillors had a brief discussion on the ramifications and reasoning for the performance failures, including the benefits of the increased numbers of tendering companies available for tenders.

Moved (Shannahan/Davidson) That this report be received.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12.30 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 1.01 p.m.

4.3 CORPORATE SERVICE MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

R. Mallinson presented this report.

Cr. Ewen asked for an update on money removed from the portfolio. R. Mallinson answered that \$200,000 was transferred out of the Portfolio in accordance with the Annual Plan. Councillors agreed that Forsyth Barr Ltd had done a very good job with the Portfolio in the past nine months.

Moved (Davidson/Ewen) That this report be received.

Carried

4.3.1 LATE ITEM: CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Mallinson overviewed this tabled and pre-circulated report.

Cr. Ewen commented on the large overdraft, to which R. Mallinson replied that this includes the \$500,000 short-term loan from the Westpac Bank.

Moved (Davidson/Ewen) That this report be received.

Carried

4.4 ADOPTION OF LATEST VERSION OF MODEL STANDING ORDERS – NZS 9202: 2003

R. Mallinson presented this report.

A general discussion took place about the use and need for standing orders.

Moved (Scarlett/Davidson) That Council adopt the new set of model standing orders, NZS 9202:2003, including Appendix H, which provides for a casting vote for the presiding member.

Carried

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

J. Clayton gave a verbal Chairman's report, including an overview of meetings attended. These included the RAHC meeting (this was previously updated by A. Macalister in his report), the LTCCP meeting, a visit to a flooded area in Matai (the surface flooding in this case was also attended by a staff member) and the RMA "Making Good Decisions Course" in Christchurch.

Moved (Clayton/Shannahan) That this verbal report be received.

Carried

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

C. Ingle presented this report, including an overview of the individual meetings attended and meetings to be attended in the near future. A full briefing of the Regional Affairs Committee meeting was undertaken.

C. Ingle spoke briefly of an Ocean's policy meeting in Wellington on 22 May 2006. Cr. Clayton asked what the basis for the Ocean's policy was? C. Ingle answered that it was his understanding that this involved Government giving direction to get many ocean policies into line, including, ensuring that there were opportunities for seabed mining etc between the 12 and 200 mile limits.

Cr. Davidson asked that the West Coast's Local Government representative, Damien O'Connor, should be invited to meet with Councillors regarding the Audit costs. Cr. Clayton indicated that he would attend to this invitation.

C. Ingle overviewed a decision made at the Regional Affairs Committee meeting, which allowed coastal occupation charges through the rating system, or as S36 charges, rather than having a first schedule plan process. All regions agreed that it would be better to have the option to rate in the coastal marine area, or using a Section 36 charge under the RMA. The Minister for the Environment will be approached for his aid in this matter.

Councillors briefly discussed the letter from the Department of Conservation regarding the proposed RAMSAR site in the Orowaiti Lagoon area. Discussion points included: Cr. Chinn indicating that most of the land required was already part of the Department's estate, community consultation, and the relevancy of the Harbour's Act in this situation. Councillors decided to receive the letter with a response letter indicating Council's perception of lack of advantage and need for this classification, given the designation and protection that this area already has.

C. Ingle asked for direction from Councillor's regarding a Ministry for the Environment survey, regarding the collection of royalties for sand and shingle taken from the coastal marine area. Councils' view was ascertained for specific questions regarding other levy collection opportunities.

Moved (Ewen/Shannahan) That this report be received.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business discussed.

The meeting closed at 1.37 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date