

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2009, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.16 A.M.

PRESENT:

R. Scarlett (Chairman), P. Ewen, A. Robb, T. Archer, D. Davidson, B. Chinn, A. Birchfield

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), C. Dall (Consents and Compliance Manager), S. Moran (Planning and Environmental Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk),
The Media

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no presentation.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Birchfield / Archer) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 13 October 2009, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

REPORTS:

4.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER'S REPORT ON ENGINEERING OPERATIONS

S. Moran took his report as read and offered to answer questions from Councillors. Cr Ewen asked if the design work for the Greymouth Floodwall upgrade has been completed. S. Moran advised that a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow to finalise the design.

Moved (Ewen / Birchfield) *that the report be received.*

Carried

5.1 CORPORATE SERVICE MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to his report noting that this the quarterly financial report to the 30th of September. R. Mallinson reported that total expenditure amounted to just over \$1.9M and total revenue amounted to just over \$3M for the reporting period. The surplus is in excess of \$1.1M.

R. Mallinson advised that the investment portfolio has performed well in the September quarter. A copy of the Forsyth Barr Quarterly Report was circulated to Councillors, this has improved in value since the 31st of March by over \$1M. R. Mallinson advised that the loan raising arrangements have been finalised.

Moved (Davidson / Robb) *that this report be received.*

Carried

5.1.1 SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR 2010

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and took it as read. Cr Birchfield requested that the November meeting be moved to Monday the 8th of November.

Moved (Archer / Chinn) *that Council adopt the Schedule of Meeting Dates for 2010 with the 8th of November being the amended date for the November Meetings.*

Carried

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to his report. He advised that he attended the Local Government New Zealand Zone 5 meeting in Christchurch on Thursday on the Chairman's behalf. C. Ingle advised that this was an interesting meeting as our representative Mr Laurence Yule, Mayor of Hastings District and the Chairman of Local Government New Zealand, had recently met with the new Auditor General, Lyn Provost. Mr Yule advised that Ms Provost, has a different approach to her predecessors, and he has a more positive view of where she might take audits on LTCCP's although the review of the Local Government Act has been a mixed bag with the various changes that have been made. C. Ingle advised one thing they have done is to shorten the name of LTCCP's into LTP's. Benchmarking is also being introduced. C. Ingle advised that Bede O'Malley, Mayor of Ashburton gave a presentation at the Zone 5 meeting on the Canterbury Water Strategy, this new strategy is being led by the mayors of Canterbury. C. Ingle spoke of various other speakers at the Zone 5 meeting including Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker and new ECAN Chair Alec Neill.

C. Ingle advised that some of the costs relating to the Wetlands hearing are already being incurred in terms of getting the Ecologist and the legal advisor up to speed.

C. Ingle clarified Council's position in regard to the wetlands hearing, he advised that Council will defend its position that the relief sought by DoC will make it harder than necessary for West Coasters to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and that the wetland protection in the current version of the Plan goes far enough. C. Ingle stated that he feels positive that this will come out in our favour.

C. Ingle advised that he has not had time to prepare a submission on the Animal Health Board's Proposed Tb Strategy but he asked if this could be circulated via email among Councillors. He is not expecting anything new in this area. Cr Robb advised that there might be changes relating to the movement of stock with rules being tightened. Cr Robb stated that the West Coast could be disadvantaged with some of the rule changes. Cr Robb advised that currently there is no evidence to say that Tb breakdowns come from moving stock and it is generally related to vector risk. C. Ingle advised that the submission is due at the end of this month.

Moved (Robb / Davidson)

1. *That this report be received.*
2. *That Council confirms it is acceptable to approve the TB Strategy by email.*

Carried

7.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)

The Chairman reported that he attended the RAC Strategic Review meeting on the 16th and 17th of October, this was held to determine the directions of regional councils. Cr Scarlett stated that a large number of members of the public do not know what regional councils do. There was also an emphasis on how to better engage with government in terms of how to put forward views and how to deal with extreme conservation, how to liaise with government ministers to inform them of the expertise in regional councils rather than them trying reinvent the wheel with other agencies such as DoC and other ministries. Cr Scarlett stated that there is a huge amount of expertise in regional councils particularly in water area.

Cr Scarlett attended the Lake Brunner Field Day on the 29th of October. He advised there were good discussions and a lot of scientists at the field day. Cr Scarlett stated that approximately 80% of farmers in the area in attendance. He stated that Council needs to continue dialogue with these farmers regarding the use of RPR as more work does need to be done in this area so that a better understanding is gained.

Moved (Scarlett / Davidson) *that this report be received.*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.35 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date