

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2013, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.01 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

B. Chinn (Chairman) , A. Robb, D. Davidson, A. Birchfield, I. Cummings

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), J. Adams (Consents & Compliance Manager), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

#### **1. APOLOGIES:**

**Moved** (Robb / Davidson) *that the apologies from R. Scarlett and T. Archer be accepted.*

*Carried*

#### **2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

#### **3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Moved** (Cummings / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 10 September 2013, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **REPORTS:**

##### **4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to this report. He stated that Westland Contractors Ltd carried out emergency repair works in the Lower Waiho rating district at a cost of just over \$60,000. He reported that \$11,000 work of work was completed in the Okuru rating district with this work being completed by JJ Nolan Ltd.

M. Meehan advised that work on the Hokitika seawall is going well. He stated that the unfavourable weather and large tides have proved challenging to contractors at times.

M. Meehan reported that good progress is being made in the Camelback Quarry with the winning of rock for the Hokitika seawall.

M. Meehan reported that holes have been drilled at the Okuru quarry. He stated that another contractor's drill was at the quarry so the opportunity was taken to prepare for blasting for when rock is required.

Cr Chinn asked if M. Meehan if there has been any progress with the funding from NZTA. C. Ingle advised that he has been informed that this has been entered as a project in the NZTA system which is a good sign.

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

*Carried*

## **4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT**

R. Mallinson spoke to his report advising that he has been heavily involved in post audit follow up matters. He advised that provided the audited Annual Report is adopted by 31 October council will still be compliant with the legislation. R. Mallinson stated that he is proposing that the audited Annual Report be adopted at the triennial meeting following the election.

R. Mallinson advised that the investment returns have stayed in positive territory during August and gains have been generated of just under \$144,000 for the year to date.

Cr Chinn stated that he feels the financial position of council is very sound which is good as the present councillors have left council in good hands for whoever is to be elected. Cr Chinn thanked R. Mallinson and his staff for their efforts. Cr Chinn stated a few years ago council needed to get its budget right and staff have done well since that time.

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

*Carried*

### **4.2.1 TRANSFER OF FUNCTONS**

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that this paper is seeking Council approval to accept the transfer of RMA functions from the Westland District Council for consents and compliance for mining activities in Westland District. C. Ingle advised that the draft Deed has been written up by L. Sadler, Council's Policy Analyst who has administered other transfers of functions such as the septic tank function that this council transferred to the district councils. Cr Davidson noted that Westland District Council has the ability to revoke the transfer of function at any stage. Cr Davidson asked if this would impact on staff or finances if extra staff were employed in this area and it was revoked, is there any surety for council. C. Ingle stated that this is a risk but he feels this would be unlikely. C. Ingle advised that this extra work will be absorbed into the consents and compliance team. Cr Robb stated that if this was revoked then Westland District Council would still need to go through a plan change or consider how they would resource this themselves. J. Adams that the mining team was increased slightly in view of Bathurst Mining Ltd starting and mining staff were having to inspect these sites anyway. Cr Chinn stated that if Westland District Council were to make mining a permitted activity then this function would not be required and Westland would fall into the same category as Grey District Council where mining is a permitted activity. Cr Robb doubts that this function would be rescinded as this is a cost saving measure and that is what people want. Cr Birchfield stated that this is a move in the right direction and it is a pity that the other district councils don't go down the same track.

**Moved** (Birchfield / Cummings)

- 1. That pursuant to Section 33(6) of the Resource Management Act 1991 the West Coast Regional Council hereby accepts the transfer of functions from the Westland District Council as set out in the attached Deed of Agreement.*
- 2. That the Council delegates to the CEO and the Chairman the role of finalising the transfer process (after the District Council has completed the Local Government Act*

*special consultative procedure) by signing the deed and affixing its seal, and agreeing to an appropriate commencement date.*

*Carried*

**5.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT**

C. Ingle spoke to his report and advised that he attended four rating district meetings. He stated that the changes made to the format of these meetings were very successful and well received. C. Ingle advised that there were no complaints from those who didn’t have a meeting this year and some very positive feedback was received. C. Ingle advised that the Whataroa rating district met amongst themselves and got back to M. Meehan on matters that they were concerned about. C. Ingle advised that due to the work involved with the Hokitika seawall the engineering department is quite stretched at the moment. C. Ingle reported that the concept of rating districts having a prudent reserve in the bank account was very well received and people understood the rationale behind this. C. Ingle stated that he is pleased with the improvement to the rating district meetings format.

C. Ingle advised there is a New Zealand River’s Award event that is being organized in Wellington in November. He advised that this award is being organized by the Morgan Foundation who have asked us to put together a three minute video on what council is doing for its rivers and which rivers have improved. C. Ingle advised that the information he will provide will come from the Annual Report with the main focus being on water quality and information around what rivers are suitable for swimming.

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

*Carried*

**6.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT (VERBAL)**

There was no chairman’s report.

**7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 11.17 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date