

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2021, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 12.50PM.**

PRESENT:

S Challenger (Chairman), A. Birchfield, P. Ewen, D. Magner, B. Cummings, J. Hill, L. Coll McLaughlin, F. Tumahai.

IN ATTENDANCE:

H. Mabin (Acting Chief Executive), C. Helem (Acting Consents & Compliance Manager) via Zoom, N. Costley (Strategy & Communications Manager) via Zoom, R. Beal (Operations Director) via Zoom, J. Armstrong (Te Tai o Poutini Project Manager) via Zoom, A. Reihana (Minutes Clerk)

1. WELCOME

Cr Challenger opened the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Moved (Coll McLaughlin / Birchfield)

That the apology from J Douglas is received.

Carried

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Coll McLaughlin – member of the Northern South Island Stewardship Land Review Panel.
F Tumahai – Chairman of Mana Whenua Stewardship Land Review Panel.

4. PUBLIC FORUM, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

There was no public forum.

PRESENTATION

There was no presentation.

5. MINUTES

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting.

Moved: (Cummings / Coll McLaughlin) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 9th November 2021, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters Arising

H Mabin referred to Enviro schools and said that R Beal will include this initiative in the shovel ready projects.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr Challenger reported that Environment Canterbury want two Ngai Tahu representatives on Council. F Tumahai said that WCRC is leading the way on this, and other districts are looking to do similar. Māori Wards do not work for the West Coast. He spoke to the leadership by WCRC on this. Cr Coll McLaughlin asked how the Council could ensure local Iwi rather than Māori Wards and F Tumahai advised that a council resolution is required.

7. REPORTS

7.1 PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE GROUP

7.1.1 PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE REPORT

R. Vaughan spoke to this report and took it as read. RM implementation approved changes to South Westland. Council's submission on the Emissions Reduction Plan discussion document was lodged on 26th November. Resource Science staff had a busy month with weather events. New hydrology data links are available, links to it are in the report. Central government is issuing new documents regarding marine pollution and freshwater implementation. The Indigenous Biodiversity draft NPS is due early 2022, Climate Change Act is due 2023. Taken over LiDAR and looking at how to best use data. Looking to attract more funding through Jobs for Nature in 2022. Resource Management reforms due 28th February 2022 will require changes to functions of regional councils and could be a further financial burden.

Cr Ewen said people need to realise how big the West Coast is and recommended an extra page in submissions to show this.

Moved (Coll McLaughlin / Hill) *That the report is received.*

Carried

7.1.2 UPDATE ON FRESHWATER IMPLEMENTATION

R. Vaughan spoke to this report. Work has commenced on work streams, and the Freshwater Management group has been set up. They are waiting on consultation with community to see what locals value most about outstanding waterbodies. Cr Birchfield noted negative feedback, which R Vaughan will respond to. R Vaughan said that the Council needs to implement this with West Coast values in mind as people are cautious and insecure regarding the freshwater initiatives. The long term vision is to work with planning staff, an inventory to be kept on natural wetlands, working with consultant around threatened species, the regional land and water plan to be done in 2022, and a fish passage role funded through Jobs for Nature. R Vaughan noted that Water Quality and Planning Team is currently under extra pressure to complete the freshwater implementation programme.

Moved (Magner / Cummings) *That this report is received.*

Carried

7.1.3 TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN UPDATE

J Armstrong spoke to this report, with a brief update. The natural hazard work undertaking held up due to COVID and contractors. Workshops have been held with councils and Iwi but more research is required before community involvement. The Companion draft document is due for release on 26th January 2022, with feedback due 11th March 2022. Cr Ewen asked about setbacks still being 200m from sea. J Armstrong

said there are no changes to current setbacks, different by district. Cr A Birchfield said the plan is becoming a nightmare with coastline, faultline and wetland issues to consider. Cr Challenger said rules in the new district plan regarding coastal hazards are unlikely to prohibit new development that can happen at the moment. However, coastal hazards rules do add cost.

Moved (Ewen / Birchfield) *That this report is received.*

Carried

7.1.4 UPDATE ON RMA REFORM

R Vaughan spoke to this report. There is an opportunity to workshop this and notes will be circulated to council when available. Cr Coll McLaughlin recommended the answer be 'no' to the request to become 'model council' for the new plan. Cr B Cummings said Megan Woods is making a list of vital resources, R Vaughan advised that this may result in a plan change but not a rule change.

Moved (Birchfield / Magner) *That this report is received.*

Carried

7.1.5 REVIEW OF STEWARDSHIP LAND

H Mabin and R Vaughan spoke to this report. H Mabin said that WCRC received an e-mail to be part of a joint West Coast Council submission on the legislative review. This will be prepared by Mark Christiansen with all four West Coast Councils contributing. This is a great opportunity for us to express views.

R Vaughan was involved in the regional resource management sector group presentation from the Department of Conservation. Ms Vaughan advised that it appears from the presentation that there are two parallel processes happening: discussion of the legislative process for reviewing of stewardship land and the review of current stewardship land on the West Coast. Stewardship land is conservation land for which the conservation values haven't been assessed therefore it hasn't been classified into a land classification under the Reserves Act. Like all conservation land, no rates can be received on this land. The classification process is assessing land for conservation value and will not be assessing the community value, economic value or historic use of the land. There is a need to realise economic value whether it is productive and whether or not it does produce jobs. Ms Vaughan recommended that WCRC engage with the community. Cr Cummings said that it was not a well rounded panel, R Vaughan acknowledged that the panel is made up of people with expertise on the land classification values outlined under the Reserves Act. F Tumahai said that the Mana Whenua Panel acts for the community as well as Iwi. He advised the committee that there was a very tight timeframe on this work and all submissions needed to be reviewed by end of January 2022.

Moved: (Hill / Cummings)

That the Committee receive and note this report, and

That staff are directed to engage with the Community and DoC to ensure the historic and community value of stewardship land is known to the review panel and included in the recommendations to the Minister for the reclassification of individual land parcels.

Carried

7.1.6 TAI POUTINI WEST COAST 2050 STRATEGY

H Mabin spoke to this report. The Strategy is the culmination of workshops and a consultation process. The draft has been provided to Councils and Development West Coast is seeking endorsement or feedback. Council requires more time to consult on this. Cr Challenger said this is a future vision.

Moved: (Ewen / Magner) *That this report is endorsed by the West Coast Regional Council.*

Carried

8. CONSENTS & COMPLIANCE MONTHLY REPORT

8.1 COMPLIANCE

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read. He noted 142 site visits, 22 complaints reports, and 1 non compliance but no action taken as yet. He outlined various consenting matters and offered to answer questions.

C. Helem advised that Waimea complaints continue to feature but by the time the team is notified it is too late. Cr Birchfield said that the Team had been to Stafford/Waimea 7 times this month which is a joke. Cr Challenger said the operators there need to get better. Cr Birchfield said there was a serial complainer that was wasting ratepayers' money. Cr Cummings suggested photos be taken of issues, C Helem said we could if needed. Cr Coll McLaughlin suggested the policy is amended to allow photos. Cr Cummings said ECAN advises photos.

Moved (Ewen / Magner) *That this report is received.*

Carried

8.2 CONSENTS

C. Helem spoke to this report and outlined various compliance matters. Cr Challenger asked what the variation of consent was for from Gloriavale. C Helem advised that they want to use used oil as a multifuel.

Moved: (Tumahai / Cummings) *That this report is received.*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

R Vaughan advised the meeting that there is a FMU visit scheduled for 18th January 2022. R Vaughan will circulate an itinerary among the committee and request attendance. The FMU want to visit the stopbanks in Hokitika and inspect a lake infestation. R Vaughan is currently reviewing costs and details.

Cr Ewen spoke of attending a SI Regional Transport committee meeting in Christchurch. Concerns were raised regarding funding as Auckland is receiving the bulk of this. The committee agreed to apply for funds as the South Island and not by region, to have more of a chance of gaining funds. Speed limit reductions in numerous areas were discussed. Cr Ewen said there was a good representation from other councils, including some of the smaller ones.

The meeting closed at 13.50 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date