

## THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2021, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.12 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

A. Birchfield (Chairman), P. Ewen, D. Magner, B. Cummings, J. Hill, L. Coll McLaughlin, J. Douglas

#### **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, N. Selman (Financial Consultant) via Zoom, T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

#### **WELCOME**

Cr Birchfield opened the meeting.

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

**Moved** (Douglas / Coll McLaughlin)

*That the apologies from Cr Challenger and F. Tumahai are received.*

*Carried*

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS**

There was no public forum.

#### **PRESENTATION**

There was no presentation.

#### **2. MINUTES**

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

**Moved** (Coll McLaughlin / Hill) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 12 October 2021, be confirmed as correct, with amendment made as below.*

*Carried*

Page 3, third paragraph, Cr Ewen did not congratulate those who voted against the motion he congratulated those who voted for the motion.

Cr Ewen stated that he feels it is important to that the discussion held at the time that there is a mention in the minutes about the concern he and other Councillors raised with regard to community wellbeing and mental health, that is a concern with the process of SNA's.

Cr Ewen requested a further correction to this section as he had voted for the receiving the report, but he will be voting against if Council is told to do anything.

## **Matters Arising**

The location of the December meeting was discussed. Cr Coll McLaughlin noted that this was partially reliant on the readiness of the marae following renovations. J. Douglas advised that the renovations have been delayed but will be completed in time for Waitangi weekend. She extended an invitation to Council to join Makaawhio to attend on Waitangi weekend, and the marae would be available for a Council meeting in March if required.

R. Vaughan advised that she is working on information relating to Cr Cummings's question about the Greenhouse Gas Emissions report.

### **3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

There was no report due to Cr Challenger's absence.

### **5. REPORTS**

#### **5.1 PLANNING AND OPERATIONS GROUP**

##### **5.1.1 PLANNING AND RESOURCE SCIENCE REPORT**

R. Vaughan spoke to this report and took it as read. She offered to answer questions. Cr Coll McLaughlin suggested a workshop is held to canvas questions regarding the Future of Local Government Review as she feels there is an opportunity to get some traction on matters that Council submits on. Cr Ewen spoke of a workshop being held on 15 November and suggested it is held that morning. It was agreed this could be held via Zoom and in person.

It was agreed that a workshop would be held on the Future of Local Government early next year in order to prepare a submission. Iwi reps are to be included.

R. Vaughan provided information on the Proposed Waste Minimisation policy. She advised that functions under the RMA are also up for review. Cr Coll McLaughlin spoke of funding being sought for landfill and ways Council could work more effectively regionally. Discuss took place on waste minimisation and it was noted this is a district council function.

#### **It is recommended that the Council resolve to:**

**Moved** (Hill / Cummings)

- 1. Receive the report.*
- 2. Agree with the updated staff advice in Appendix 1 about which national documents to submit on.*  
*Carried*

##### **5.1.2 PROPOSED REGIONAL COASTAL PLAN**

R. Vaughan spoke to this report and provide extensive background information. She explained the options analysis and advised that staff are in favour of Option 1 as this is the least risky option. Cr Coll McLaughlin agrees with Option 1 and feels this might be the most prudent and efficient option. R. Vaughan clarified matters relating to alternative pathways. Extensive discussion took place. Crs Cummings, Magner, Ewen, Hill are also in favour of Option 1. J. Douglas is in favour of Option 1. It was agreed that R. Vaughan would keep the committee informed of progress. She advised that she will also keep in contact with DoC and the Hector's Dolphin Defenders NZ Inc.

**Moved** (Magner / Cummings)

**It is recommended that the Council resolve to:** *Receive the report.*

*Carried*

### 5.1.2 HOKITIKA FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT UNIT (FMU) GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

R. Vaughan spoke to this report and advised members of the FMU group are present and have made their recommendations. The FMU's group Chairman, Kees van Beek, addressed the meeting. He spoke of the 27 recommendations contained in the report and advised that 13 meetings have been held. Mr van Beek stated that water quality is generally pretty good. He spoke of the field trip to a mining site and was very impressed with water reticulation. Mr van Beek thanked staff for their time and efforts with this project. Cr Ewen stated the report is very comprehensive and a lot of effort has gone into it, he congratulated the committee and staff on their work.

Cr Coll McLaughlin drew attention to recommendation 8, and asked what matters of control are likely to be. L. Sadler advised that next year chapters to the Land and Water Plan will be drafted and will be covered then. R. Vaughan provided additional advice on this matter.

Cr Coll McLaughlin stated she is in favour of EnviroSchool's funding, but this was not signalled via the LTP, as they had made a submission. H. Mabin advised that management is considering funding this and it is on the radar for the Annual Plan.

Mr van Beek passed on this thanks to the RMC. J. Douglas thanked the FMU group for their work over the past 15 months.

**Moved** (Coll McLaughlin / Cummings)

**It is recommended that the Council resolve to:**

*Approve the Hokitika Freshwater Management Unit Group Recommendations, to be implemented as much as practicable, to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020.*

*Carried*

### 5.1.3 TAI O POUTINI PLAN UPDATE

J. Armstrong spoke to this report and advised that natural hazards provisions are being work through at the moment. Individual workshops are being held with four more to be held during November.

J. Armstrong advised that the committee is seeking funding for economic analysis of minerals provisions. J. Armstrong answered questions and advised that she has consulted with Minerals West Coast and she is very aware of how important mining is for the West Coast. She has spoken with mining companies. Cr Birchfield queried why the permitted activity rule is not being used. J. Armstrong stated that compared to other plans this is more enabling and she will be presenting this to the next meeting. Cr Birchfield feels that best Plan possible should be written for the West Coast.

**Moved** (Douglas / Cummings)

**It is recommended that the Resource Management Committee resolve to:**

*Note the report.*

*Carried*

### 5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT

C. Helem spoke to this report and took it as read. He outlined various consenting matters and offered to answer questions.

C. Helem advised that the consent hearing for Westland Mineral Sands consent application is likely to take place in February.

J. Douglas expressed concern relating to RC 2021 0052, to undertake mining near Arthurstown. C. Helem advised this company is currently mining close to Ruatapu. J. Douglas stated that there are historic burial sites and Pa settlements in this area. C. Helem agreed to send the consent application to J. Douglas. He confirmed that the location is more towards Ruatapu rather than Arthurstown.

**Moved** (Ewen / Magner) *That the November 2021 report of the Consents Group be received.*

*Carried*

**5.2.2 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

C. Helem spoke to this report and outlined various compliance matters. He advised that a recent prosecution has been dealt with via the alternative justice pathway and charges have now been dismissed. He C. Helem advised that there are no other Council prosecutions before the Courts, and at this time no other serious matters are being investigated that could lead to prosecutions.

Cr Coll McLaughlin asked where do the funds go when a large bond is received. H. Mabin advised that this is to be a discussion with regard to the investment policy and stated that all funds for bonds are included in general bank accounts as opposed to being invested separately.

C. Helem advised that the \$15M is a surety bond and Council is not holding any cash and is similar to an insurance premium. He stated that other large bonds from Bathurst Mining Ltd were invested with Council’s main investment portfolio. It was confirmed that interest accrued goes to the bond holder.

**Moved** (Magner / Hill) *That the November report of the Compliance Group be received.*

*Carried*

**Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Metrics Report**

C. Helem spoke to this report. Cr Coll McLaughlin stated she is surprised with the lack of progress of some councils with regard to Iwi partnership processes, but is proud of Council’s progress in this area. She is also spoke of how much work Council has to do given our land size and small population, which has decreased. Cr Birchfield stated that there could have been quite a few people who were missed from the last census.

H. Mabin stated that this is a good report. She spoke of the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreement and advised that she has passed on a copy of this to Jim Palmer. She stated this is a very well written document.

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

*Carried*

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

The itinerary and proposed location of the December Council and RMC meetings was discussed. A logistics report was tabled and discussed. Cr Ewen spoke of costs involved if Council travels to Fox Glacier, he feels this would be better scheduled for January when there is no council meeting. Cr Ewen stated this could be a day trip to save on costs. Cr Ewen stated that recruitment of the new CEO will also take up a lot of time. Cr Hill nice to visit marae once work is finished. J. Douglas agreed and stated that renovations at the Te Tauraka Waka a Maui Marae at Bruce Bay should be complete by Waitangi Day. Extensive discussion took place. Cr Magner agreed and stated that December is going to be a busy month. Cr Cummings happy to combine this with Waitangi Day visit and possibly rating district meetings at the same time. H. Mabin confirmed that the February meeting is scheduled for 8 February. Cr Coll McLaughlin stated she is keen to visit the marae and to support the FMU as they have put in a lot of work. The Chairman feels it will be difficult to fit this into December. Cr Ewen stated that the FMU visit could be a separate visit, in January. H. Mabin advised she has discussed this with R. Beal and both would like the Waiho River, Hokitika Seawall, Hokitika River wall and IRG projects to be viewed by Councillors at the same time as the FMU trip in January. Cr Ewen stated that an early start could be made to make the most of the day. It was agreed that the FMU visit along with the Franz Josef site visit will be held in January as a day trip, and the February Council / RMC meeting is held at the Bruce Bay marae. As previously agreed at the October Council meeting a meeting would be held at each marae each year with all other meetings held at WCRC.

The meeting closed at 12.16 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date