

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE GREYMOUTH JOINT FLOODWALL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2011,  
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL,  
388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.34 A.M.**

**PRESENT:**

D. Truman, T. Bowe (OPUS), Alison Elam, Rodney Beckett (Greymouth Police), Alan Wilson (Grey District Council), C. Ingle (WCRC Chief Executive), W. Moen (WCRC River Engineer), M. Meehan (WCRC Planning and Environmental Manager) K. Beams (GDC Property Manager), M. Sutherland (GDC Assets Manager), S. Beaumont (Hydrologist, WCRC), Nichola Costley (Planner WCRC), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk).

**APOLOGIES:** T. Kokshoorn

**BUSINESS OF MEETING**

M. Meehan welcomed those present to the meeting.

He advised that the Grey River is now 5 metres above its alarm level. He advised actions are now being taken as per the flood manual.

S. Beaumont provided a situation update. He stated that more rain than the December 2010 flood event has occurred. He advised that the Grey River is expected to rise to greater than 6 metres.

**The Ahaura River** is at a record high. S. Beaumont advised that this heavy rain event has more grunt than the December event. He advised this river is still rising but is close to its peak but may go a little higher. 103mm has been recorded at the rain gauge at this site.

**The Waipuna River** is close to peaking at 6m above normal. This equates to a 10 – 20 year flood return and is likely to take 3 – 5 hours from now to reach the lower end of the catchment.

**The Grey River** is likely to peak at 3 – 5 hours from now.

S. Beaumont stated that the front has now moved to the north but it could stall over this area.

The rainfall gauge at Sirdar Creek has recorded 255 mls of rain but nothing since 8.27am.

**Forecast Prediction**

S. Beaumont stated that the Grey River is likely to peak at 6 – 6.5m at Dobson. There is a chance of more rainfall mid morning. Moderate levels are expected at Waipuna but the main trigger is the Ahaura River. P. Pretorius stated that during the event of 1998, the Grey River reached 6.8 metres but this was prior to the floodwall being in place. Questions were asked of S. Beaumont as to what impact high tide would have on the Grey River. S. Beaumont stated that tidal flows do not influence large flows.

## **Actions**

Media release – M. Meehan read out a media release.

Road Closures – these are the responsibility of the district councils. OPUS deal with the state highway closures.

Range Creek – W. Moen stated that the floodgates have not yet been opened.

P. Pretorius stated that all cuts have been opened.

M. Meehan suggested a meeting is called again once the Grey River reaches 6 metres.

Floodgates will be put in place but need to be mindful on how this impacts on Cobden.

Media release to be issued.

A. Wilson to ring all civil defence wardens.

S. Beaumont to advise to of next meeting.

**Meeting closed at 11.50**