

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
NELSON CREEK RATING DISTRICT
HELD AT THE NGAHERE FIRE STATION
ON 15 OCTOBER 2018, COMMENCING AT 5.16 PM

PRESENT

G. Hill, T. Kendrick

IN ATTENDANCE

West Coast Regional Council
A. Birchfield, P. Ewen (Councillors)
R. Beal, P. Birchfield T. Jellyman (Staff)

APOLOGIES

M. Savage, Cr Robb (away on Council business)

T. Hill / T. Kendrick - Carried

BUSINESS

Cr Birchfield opened the meeting and welcomed those present.
He introduced himself and the Council staff.

Moved: ***"That the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on 8 October 2012, be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting."***

T. Kendrick / T. Hill - Carried

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising. The action point regarding gravel build up under the bridge was discussed. It was agreed that this is no longer a problem as the gravel was washed away in flood a long time ago.

FINANCIAL REPORT

R. Beal presented the financial statements for the financial period ending 30 June 2018. It was noted that the balance at the beginning of the financial year was \$199,365.80 and the closing balance is \$225,336.32.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

WORKS REPORT

P. Birchfield presented the works report, which covered the 12-month period; 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018. It was noted that no works were carried out this financial year.

P. Birchfield advised that as a result of an inspection carried out with the spokesperson in July 2018 \$16,500 worth of works for 2018 / 2019 year were identified. She stated that in August 2018 top up of the rock groyne above the rail bridge was undertaken. The weed spraying at the

true left bank below the main road will be done later in the year. KiwiRail will be paying 50% of the costs for both lots of work.

P. Birchfield recommended that \$10,000 be allowed for unforeseen maintenance.

RATES 2019 / 2020

P. Birchfield advised that the recommended rate strike for 2019 / 2020 financial year is \$17,500 (GST Excl). She advised that the balance in the rating district account at 30 June 2019 is likely to be around \$235,000.

This target balance for the 'prudent reserve' for this rating district is \$160,000. This prudent reserve is immediately available for urgent emergency works that may be required following a major event. The predicted damage exposure to the scheme's assets is estimated at \$160,000 – \$400,000 depending on the size of the flood (see Asset Management Plan). It is therefore likely this prudent reserve will only cover a portion of the actual cost of the potential damage that could occur.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was acknowledged that Mr George Hill has passed away. It was agreed that T. Kendrick be nominated as spokesperson.

Moved: *"That T. Kendrick be elected as the spokesperson for the 2018 / 2019 financial year."*

T. Hill / A. Birchfield - Carried

Agreed Level of Service

P. Birchfield advised that Audit NZ have requested that agreed level of service is discussed at each rating district meeting this year. The Council has suggested that an analysis be commissioned to quantify the actual level of protection that the scheme currently provides. The rating district has not yet decided if they wish to have any new flood analysis undertaken. In 1983, sections of stopbank were built to contain a flood of 539 cumecs which at that time was estimated to be a 1 in 50 year return period flood. P. Birchfield advised that she cannot quantify to what level of flood protection the scheme offers as further survey work would be required. T. Hill stated that top up of the stopbank was done a few years ago. P. Birchfield advised that Council will pay for 50% of survey work.

Willow Tree Loss

J. Ellis advised that willow trees have been part of the NZ landscape for close to 180 years. They have been used for bank protection, shelter and timber, and as a tool for erosion, and flood protection. It was agreed that willows are useful for this rating district. J. Ellis spoke of the Large Willow Aphid which was found in NZ in 2013 and is now well established NZ wide. He stated that the aphid has killed willows in the North Island and there is evidence of it throughout the South Island, including the Grey Valley. J. Ellis advised that Hon Shane Jones, Regional Development Minister, has set up an initiative to plant one billion trees over the next 10 years. Government funding is available to communities via the Provincial Growth Fund. J. Ellis advised that the planting of riverbank species is important to and these alternative species could be used to for flood flow retardation, debris capture and to reduce debris raft formation against bridges as well as being a potential source of timber in future. J. Ellis advised that the root mass of willow trees is being destroyed and the cavity is rotting away with the damaged trees then being

taken away by the river. J. Ellis advised that it is possible that there may be an alternative which could replace willows.

R. Beal stated that further information will be forthcoming via the Weedbusters newsletter and once the annual meetings have been held throughout the region, depending on interest, then a combined application will be made to this fund. Cr Birchfield asked the meeting if they wished to take the opportunity to apply to the Shane Jones initiative. All present agreed that they are not interested.

It was agreed that meetings would be held biannually.

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.38 pm.

Action Point

- P. Birchfield to check gravel build up under bridge.

Council Infrastructure Insurance Details

Information provided by R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager)

Council exited LAPP in 2011 following the Canterbury earthquakes, as it was going to be unaffordable to continue.

We then established a designated Catastrophe Fund, which has grown to \$1M.

As from 1/11/17 WCRC Infrastructure is covered under the AON Lloyds scheme.

We are in a grouping of South Island Councils (Nelson, Tasman, Buller, Grey, Westland, WCRC, Queenstown Lakes, Environment Southland) with total programme cover of (now) \$300M.

WCRC carries cover of \$35 million and the annual premium is paid for from interest earned on the \$1 million Catastrophe Fund. The excess is \$250,000.

See details of actual cover below taken from the actual Policy wording: The infrastructure cover includes (quoting direct from Policy).

“Materials damage natural catastrophe insurance” including:

Earthquake, Natural landslip, Flood, Tsunami, Tornado, Windstorm, Volcanic eruption, Hydrothermal and geothermal activity, Subterranean Fire, And Business Interruption resulting from them.