

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2019, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 11.22 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

A. Robb (Chairman), T. Archer, S. Challenger, P. Ewen, A. Birchfield, P. McDonnell

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

M. Meehan (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), H. McKay (Consents & Compliance Manager), H. Mills (Planning, Science & Innovation Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk).

#### **1. APOLOGY:**

There were no apologies. It was noted that Cr Clementson was granted a leave of absence at last month's meeting.

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

There was no public forum.

#### **3.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting. There were no changes requested.

**Moved** (Ewen / Birchfield) that *the minutes of the Council meeting dated 13 August 2019, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters arising**

Cr Ewen asked if it was Council staff who provided the second redesign and costings for the Karamea stopbank upgrade. M. Meehan confirmed this.

#### **REPORTS:**

#### **4.1 OPERATIONS REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to this report in R. Beal's absence. He spoke of work that has been carried out in several rating districts recently.

M. Meehan reported that heavy seas have caused some damage to the seawall at Punakaiki. He stated that preparation work has been carried out in the Karamea rating district with an access track constructed to allow trucks to clear debris for when the stopbank upgrade commences. M. Meehan advised that work is progressing well with the Hokitika Seawall Rating District.

M. Meehan reported that 75% of the total volume of rock required has now been placed for the Milton & Others stopbank in the Lower Waiho Rating District. He advised that completion is expected around 11 October but this is dependent on weather and river conditions. M. Meehan advised that 50,000 tonne of rock has been recovered from the river to date, with another 10,000 tonnes to go.

M. Meehan invited R. Mallinson to update the meeting on progress with the insurance claim. R. Mallinson advised that the Crown has made their first payment with the second payment expected today. R. Mallinson stated that he is now focussing his attention on the insurer and is working with Aon to get a

definitive response to the insurance claim. R. Mallinson stated that he is hoping the insurer will pay out based on the full declared value. He stated that if this happens borrowing by the rating district will not be required.

R. Mallinson advised that the second claim to the Crown relates to work at Inchbonnie and Kaniere rating districts. He stated that the Crown and insurer are both very aware that the same event caused damage in several locations, not just Franz Josef.

M. Meehan advised that he would follow up with R. Beal on questions asked by Crs Archer and Birchfield in relation to the diagram on page 12 of the agenda. M. Meehan agreed to follow up on matters relating to Kiwi Quarry on behalf of Cr Ewen.

Cr Challenger stated that he has received comments from people who are very impressed with the work being done on the Hokitika Seawall. Cr Challenger asked questions relating to the charging of this work to the rating district. M. Meehan advised that Council had agreed to take out a five year loan to pay for this work. He stated that currently there has been no changes to the rating district classifications but this could be considered by the new council as part of the annual plan. R. Mallinson explained the terms of the loan for this rating district and advised that this is a \$1.5M loan over a 20 year period and is being paid off at \$75,000 per year. R. Mallinson advised that any changes to the funding arrangement would need to go through the annual plan process.

**Moved** (Challenger / Birchfield) *That the report is received.*

*Carried*

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

R. Mallinson spoke to his report and advised that he has been heavily committed to finalising the Audit Report for Audit NZ. He stated that the auditors will be on site for two weeks from Monday.

R. Mallinson advised that it is now unlikely that 8 October Annual Report audit sign off will be achieved due to delays PCR LP audit is yet to be finalised and is not expected until around 11 October. R. Mallinson stated that sign off is expected in late October.

R. Mallinson confirmed to Cr Birchfield that the Catastrophe Fund has now been liquidated, and will be rebuilt once the insurance proceeds are to hand.

**Moved** (Archer / Challenger) *That the report is received.*

*Carried*

#### **4.3 SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING AND FINANCE**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and took it as read. He confirmed that the submission has been lodged.

**Moved** (Birchfield / McDonnell) *That the report is received.*

*Carried*

#### **5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT**

The Chairman spoke to his report and took it as read. He spoke briefly of recent meetings he attended including the meeting to discuss engineering options for Lower Cobden. M. Meehan advised that Council was asked to look at what private property was affected by inundation by the sea. M. Meehan advised that staff are looking at the existing information they have on this area; it is likely that there are five or six properties near the carpark area that could be affected.

The Chairman reported that he attended the Regional Sector meeting with the major focus being the Fresh Water Package announcements. He stated that the Regional Sector is considering drafting a submission which may be circulated to Councillors to see if they support this.

The Chairman stated that the Te Tai O Poutini Committee meeting was held yesterday.

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

*Carried*

## 6.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

M. Meehan spoke to his report. He stated that a lot of time is currently being spent looking at what is coming out of central government. M. Meehan advised the he, H. Mills and H. McKay will be meeting tomorrow to work through some of these matters.

**Moved** (Archer / Ewen) *that this report is received.*

*Carried*

## GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Archer asked if there is funding available for Westport 2100 to undertake the studies identified in relation to gravel shifts in the Orowaiti overflow. He stated that BDC has provided \$5,000 but there is a shortfall of \$8,000. M. Meehan advised that there is a \$50,000 budget in the operations area for this type of work and Envirolink funding could be applied for. M. Meehan agreed to liaise with R. Beal regarding this.

Cr Archer asked what the plans are to address how Council will fill vacancies on working groups following the elections. M. Meehan advised that this will be one of the first matters the new council will need to deal with. He stated that in view of four out of seven elected members not standing this will be quite a new Council and it might pay to hold a few workshops as well as field trips for new Councillors.

The meeting closed at 11.45 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date