

**WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON**  
**9 JULY 2024 AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOOUTH COMMENCING AT 11.52AM**

**PRESENT:** F. Dooley (Chair), P. Haddock, M. McIntyre, P. Ewen, A. Campbell, B. Cummings (via Zoom)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** D. Lew (Chief Executive), J. Field (Group Manager - Office of the CE (via Zoom)), T. Hopkins (Group Manager - Catchment Management (via Zoom)), J. Allen (Group Manager - Regulatory & Policy), R. Kemper (Group Manager - Council Business Unit), A. Pendergrast (Acting Corporate Services Manager), P. Blackwood (Chief Engineer), C. Heath (Quarry Manager (via Zoom)), S. Hoare (Inovo IGC Programme Manager), S. Tripathi (Governance Advisor), B. McMahon (Media)

**1. Welcome (*Haere mai*)**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**2. Apologies (*Ngā Pa Pouri*)**

The Chair called for apologies. An apology was received by Francois Tumahai.

**Moved** (Dooley/ McIntyre) *that the apology from F Tumahai be received.*

*Carried*

**3. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair called for any declarations of interest.

Cr Haddock declared interest relating to Franz Josef and Greymouth. Cr Campbell declared interest relating to Wanganui and Whataroa.

**4. Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations (*He Huinga tuku korero*)**

There were no public forums or deputations.

**5. Confirmation of Minutes**

**5.1 Minutes of Infrastructure Governance Committee Meeting 4 June 2024**

The Chair called for any corrections to the minutes 4 June 2024 meeting. Minor amendments were noted.

**Moved** (Dooley/ Campbell) *that, with the noted corrections made, the minutes of 4 June 2024, be accepted as a true and accurate record.*

*Carried*

### **Matters Arising**

Noted item 8.1 confirmed to be deleted the reference to Avery's. The floating lagoon refers to the Wharf/Shingle Beach area.

## **6. Actions List**

The actions list was reviewed, and the following updates were noted.

- Item 1 – Ongoing.
- Item 2 – Ongoing.
- Item 3 – Completed. To be deleted.
- Item 4 – Ongoing.
- Item 5 – Completed. To be deleted.
- Item 6 – Ongoing.
- Item 7 – Ongoing. Noted to write to all Rating District members to gauge interest in capital works, canvassing the entire district.
- Item 8 – Ongoing. Noted over 1,000T recovered to date.
- Item 9 – Completed. To be deleted.
- Item 10 – Completed. To be deleted.

**Moved** (Campbell/ Cummings) *that the spurs needed to be looked at by the Chief Engineer during his next visit and noted that they were third party spurs and not WCRC.*

*Carried*

- Item 11 – Ongoing. Action item to be corrected to "oxidation pond protection works". J. Allen noted that the WDC invoked Section 330 for emergency works to construct the oxidation pond. However, they failed to submit the application within the required 20-day period, making it a retrospective consent.

**Moved** (Ewen/ McIntyre) *that the Committee receives the Actions List for information.*

*Carried*

The meeting adjourned at 12.34pm.

The meeting reconvened at 1.00pm.

## 7. Chairs Report

The Chair presented a verbal report to the Committee, expressing disappointment with the slow progress on most projects over the past month. However, he acknowledged the completion of several tasks, including the Punakaiki urgent repairs, two Rating District meetings, and the resolution of the KiwiRail consenting issue in Hokitika.

The Chair announced that Item 8.3, the Nature Based Solutions report, would be removed from the agenda. He expressed disappointment that it was included despite his prior advice to the CE and the Group Manager - Catchment Management. While acknowledging a potential future role for nature-based solutions in flood protection, he currently considers them a distraction and a misuse of Regional Council staff and resources. The Chair acknowledged Cr Haddock's support for Greymouth and suggested resubmitting the Greymouth-related portion of the paper separately for consideration.

Cr Haddock expressed disappointment, highlighting the importance of nature-based solutions, particularly large retention ponds. The Chair maintained his position, noting that he had not approved the item for the agenda.

A discussion followed about proper channels for agenda items and the importance of the 'no surprises' policy for the Councillors.

**Moved** (Campbell/ McIntyre) *that the Chair's Report be received.*

*Carried*

## 8. Reports

### 8.1 Monthly Catchment Management Report

T Hopkins spoke to the report highlighting key updates on the progress in maintenance and repair projects as noted below.

- Completion of Punakaiki Seawall repair.
- Rating district meetings for 2022-23 financial year nearly complete with only Greymouth Rating District Joint Committee meeting remaining, scheduled on 23 July 2024.
- Scheduling for the 2023-24 financial year rating district meetings to commence soon.
- Natural Hazards – the Council was about to release river flood modelling data to Buller District Council (BDC).

P. Blackwood provided an update on the Westport project design, noting that forecast flood depth assessments for properties outside the stopbanks were complete. Adaptation options were being considered with BDC. Issues with Cat's Creek/Abattoir Drain and ongoing negotiations with KiwiRail were discussed. KiwiRail agreed to a temporary stopbank for a year and a half, after which it must be removed, causing significant concern and frustration among Councillors due to KiwiRail's lack of cooperation and understanding of flood protection needs.

The Committee discussed the broader challenges of working with KiwiRail across various regional projects. Councillors expressed disappointment with KiwiRail's approach, citing delays and obstacles in Hokitika, Westport, and other areas. As a result of this discussion the following motion was passed unanimously.

**Moved** (Dooley/ Haddock) *that this Council writes to the Minister expressing its concern about the lack of cooperation from KiwiRail with respect to flood protection programs/schemes throughout the region. The delays have potential massive impacts on West Coast communities and in particular on the rate payers. Their behaviour is not acceptable, particularly given the fact the majority of the schemes are co-funded and approved by the Central Government. The Council requests the Minister to take urgent action to free up the processes and obstacles currently confronted by this Council with KiwiRail. (Copy of the letter to be sent to the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Regional and Economic Development.)*

*Carried*

The CE provided an update on ongoing issues with KiwiRail regarding the Stevens Road box culvert. He reported a recent conversation with a KiwiRail staff member, stressing that the responsibility for this work lies with KiwiRail, not the Regional Council.

**Moved** (Dooley/ McIntyre) *that the Committee resolves to receive the report.*

*Carried*

## **8.2 Quarry Operations Monthly Report**

C Heath spoke to the report.

Cr. Ewen raised concerns about rock storage in various quarries, particularly in the Wanganui area, noting the absence of stockpiles there. He emphasized the need to maintain emergency rock stockpiles for Rating Districts, recommending at least 2,000 tonnes be kept on hand.

The Inchbonnie quarry contract for producing AP65 and AP40 aggregates was discussed. In response to Cr Ewen's request regarding the clarification on the financial arrangement, C Heath mentioned that the contractor bought rubble from WCRC at \$2 per tonne and then crushed it.

Cr Ewen expressed disappointment with the report's findings on the escrow account related to Kiwi quarry. He noted that the Tyneside mine, which closed in July 1954 as the last state-owned mine in the area, should qualify the quarry for escrow funding. Cr Ewen highlighted the risks of old mine workings near current infrastructure, including state highways and rail lines. It was agreed that further investigation was necessary. It was noted that the Quarry Manager will collaborate with Cr Ewen to collect more information and documentation on the Tyneside mine and the escrow account's purpose.

The Council discussed engaging with the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) and KiwiRail to address potential risks and request letters of support for remediating or restoring the Kiwi Quarry area.

**Moved** (Haddock/ McIntyre) *that the Committee receives the report.*

*Carried*

## **9. IRG Projects**

### **9.1 Franz Josef IGC Project Status Report June 2024**

Cr Haddock declared interest in this agenda item.

S Hoare spoke to the report and took the report as read.

Key discussions –

- Heliport works alterations are largely completed and the construction of part of the wall can now proceed.
- Contractor has resumed site work, starting diversion construction.
- Instructions for additional work and adjustments are being finalized.
- Extension of time application submitted to Kanoa; revised completion date not specified.
- Western District Council's vegetation concerns addressed; work to be completed by end of July.
- Project progress is positive despite delays and ongoing contractor negotiations.

**Moved** (Ewen/ Campbell) *that the Committee receives the report.*

## 9.2 Greymouth IGC Project Status Report June 2024

Cr Haddock declared interest in this agenda item.

S Hoare spoke to the report and took the report as read.

Key discussions –

- Recognition of the challenges with consent requirements; agreement with contractor to ensure site is left in satisfactory condition.
- Contractor will start Stage 1 work on 23 July; may address coal tar issue, if resolved in the next two weeks.
- Quantity of coal tar to be rechecked and historical context provided; coal tar likely from old gasworks; encapsulation under a wall may be safest option.
- Council expressed frustration but supports efforts to resolve the coal tar issue and proceed with the project.

**Moved** (McIntyre/ Ewen) *that the Committee receives the report and note the attachment.*

Carried

## 9.3 Hokitika River Walls IGC Project Status Report June 2024

S Hoare spoke to the report and took the report as read.

- Conditions for river works consents resolved with Westland District Council and final consents pending.
- Pre-start meeting with contractor held to plan work during the whitebait season, focusing on riverside and rail corridor to minimize disruption.
- Contractor Henry Adams is ready to mobilize once consents are received.
- Collaboration with KiwiRail includes completed pre-condition survey and permission for vegetation clearance on the bank.
- Pipe work clarification: main core work is on the riverside; drain work is on the landward side.
- Discussion about appointing a single contact for KiwiRail; decision pending ministerial response.
- Positive working relationship with KiwiRail; challenges in consultation process acknowledged and improvements planned for future projects.
- Project progressing well; final hurdle is the issuance of river works consents.

**Moved** (McIntyre/ Haddock) *that the Committee receives the report.*

## 10. General Business

A brief discussion was held on update regarding Franz Josef funding. The CE mentioned that he met Graham Campbell in Wellington. Noted that the regional sector has met all government requirements for Tranche 2 funding for 42 projects and are now awaiting government response, with funding for Tranche 2 and regional investment projects (expected within a few weeks).

For scheduling of another Franz Josef Joint Committee meeting, the CE suggested waiting for a week or two for a potential government announcement. The CE expressed hope that they could work collaboratively with the new government and their well-received \$1.2 billion regional investment funds over three years.

Councillor Cummings noted Franz Josef's inclusion in the budget announcement, but specific funding details are still pending.

## PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

**Moved** (Dooley/ McIntyre) *that:*

1. *the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – **agenda items 11 and 13 (inclusive)***

<b>Item No</b>	<b>General Subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 7 of LGOIMA for the passing of this resolution</b>
11.1	Confidential Minutes Infrastructure Governance Committee Meeting – 4 June 2024	The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters	To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a),

			<i>s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).</i>
<i>12.1</i>	<i>Actions List</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial, privacy and security matters</i>	<i>To protect commercial and private information and to prevent disclosure of information for improper gain or advantage (s7(2)(a), s7(2)(b), and s7(2)(j)).</i>
<i>13.1</i>	<i>Franz Josef IGC Project Status Report June 2024</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial matters.</i>	<i>To protect commercial information s7(2)(b)).</i>
<i>13.2</i>	<i>Greymouth IGC Project Status Report June 2024</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial matters</i>	<i>To protect commercial information s7(2)(b)).</i>
<i>13.3</i>	<i>Hokitika IGC Project Status Report June 2024</i>	<i>The item contains information relating to commercial matters</i>	<i>To protect commercial information s7(2)(b)).</i>

*and that*

- 2. Darryl Lew, Jo Field, Tom Hopkins, and Scott Hoare be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public have been excluded due to their knowledge of the subjects. This knowledge will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed; and*



3. *That the minute taker also be permitted to remain.*

The meeting moved into the public excluded session at 2.37pm.



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Chair

6 August 2024

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Date