

CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Central South Island Fish and Game Council held in the Boardroom, 32 Richard Pearse Drive, Temuka, on Thursday 18 October 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Present: J Cruden P McLauchlan
B Growcott G Rooney (Chairman)
M Hall W Spry
D Isbister Bill Whipp
L Koevoet J Henry (Ngai Tahu)

In Attendance:

Staff: J Graybill (Chief Executive), B Dolan (Office Administrator), A Christensen (Resource Officer), R Adams (Fish and Game Officer), H Stevens (Fish and Game Officer), and J Couper (Fish and Game Officer).

Members of Public: P Shutt, R Pearce, S Bannister, P Centofanti, and P Hodgson,

18-042 APOLOGIES:

M Webb.

AGREED that the apology of M Webb be accepted

18-043 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

Chairman queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register. No additions were notified.

18-044 HEALTH & SAFETY:

Chief Executive pointed out exit points of the building and assembly points for evacuation of the premises.

18-045 NOTICE OF GENERAL BUSINESS:

45.1 Quorum (LK)

L Koevoet had queried if the June 2018 meeting of CSI Council had operated with a quorum when the Chairman vacated the chair for part of a discussion?

Chief Executive cited the CSI Standing Order 1.11.1 that specifies that quorum for a meeting is:

*" a) half of the members, where the number of members (including vacancies) is even; or
b) a majority of the members, where the number of members (including vacancies) is odd."*

Chief Executive referred to the CSI Council minutes of 14 June 2018 and noted that six Council members were present at that meeting. With ten councillors total, and therefore "even", a quorum would be five. During the time when the chair vacated the meeting there were five councillors present. This satisfied the quorum requirement.

18-046 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 16 August 2018:

Resolved (Isbister/Spry)

18-039

THAT THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF 16 AUGUST 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

18-047 BUDGET AND FINANCE:

047.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing

Resolved (Koevoet/McLauchlan)

18-040

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE EXPENSE LISTINGS FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2018 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$380,991.29 AND \$79,193.26, RESPECTIVELY.

18-048 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:

048.1 A trial of the effectiveness of a permeable rock bund for excluding fish at the Rangitata Water Limited intake

At 7:21 pm G Rooney declared a conflict of interest, vacated the Chair, asked the Chief Executive to preside for this topic, and left the Council boardroom.

M Hall queried who owns the report? Chief Executive responded that it's a CSI report prepared by Fish and Game Officer M Webb with co-author, Daryl Mackenzie, providing a statistical analysis to strengthen its conclusions.

M Hall stated he believed that what was in the report was a fair representation of the conditions at the time so was happy to receive the report on that basis but believed there were limitations to the report, i.e, the size of the fish and that the trial was not undertaken in flood flows.

The Chief Executive stated that the report and its conclusions stand on their own. In his professional view the report fairly described the physical conditions that applied at the time of the trial as well as qualifying the application of the conclusions.

Resolved (Spry/Koevoet)

18-041

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE REPORT ENTITLED "A TRIAL OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A PERMEABLE ROCK BUND FOR EXCLUDING FISH AT THE RANGITATA WATER LIMITED INTAKE."

Resolved (Hall/Koevoet)

18-042

- 1. THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE REPORT ACCURATELY DESCRIBES THE RESULT OF THE TESTS,**
- 2. THE TEST REFLECTS THE RESULTS UNDER THE CONDITIONS THAT PREVAILED AT THE TIME AND,**
- 3. COUNCIL NOTES THE LIMITATIONS DESCRIBED IN THE REPORT.**

At 7:38 pm G Rooney returned to the boardroom and resumed the Chair.

048.2 Managed Aquifer Recharge – Governance Group

M Webb's report on the above topic was discussed. In it he noted that he believed the purposes of the Trust (s.3.1) are positive for environmental gains through better water management and that CSI Fish and Game has significantly more to gain through satisfaction of these purposes than any of the other interested groups and to a large degree the Trust may rely on him, as an appointee, to identify what successful outcomes will look like on the ground. He further believed the MAR programme is just one of many actions for addressing poor surface and groundwater quality and quantity in the Ashburton District.

M Hall noted the importance of CSI Fish and Game not being bound by a majority decision of the Trust and that there needed to be a demarcation as to where M Webb's responsibilities sit. M Webb is a paid employee of CSI and has a job description so felt that he should be on the Trust as an individual (in the same way as being a "community member" on a Zone Committee) and not as a representative of CSI Fish and Game. He also felt it would be important that he reports regularly to the CSI Council on the activities of this Trust as a protection.

Resolved (Isbister/Hall)

18-043

THAT COUNCIL APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE TO APPOINTING ONE TRUSTEE TO THE HEKEAO/HINDS WATER ENHANCEMENT TRUST AND INDEMNIFIES THE TRUSTEE AGAINST CLAIMS MADE AGAINST THE TRUSTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRUST.

048.3 Bowyers Stream Case

A report prepared by A Christensen on the Bowyers Stream case was discussed by Council. It was:

Resolved (Spry/Isbister)

18-044

THAT COUNCIL CONTINUES TO SUPPORT PROCEEDING WITH THE CASE AGAINST ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY UNDER S26ZJ OF THE CONSERVATION ACT (1987) FOR ALLEGED WORKS IN BOWYERS STREAM, A VALUABLE SPAWNING TRIBUTARY TO THE ASHBURTON RIVER.

18-049 PUBLIC ISSUES FORUM:

P Hodgson queried if there has been anything further on the request from the Salmon Committee? Chief Executive responded that CSI had replied to the Salmon Committee as resolved at its August 2018 Council meeting but was not aware of further communication from the Salmon Committee. P Hodgson responded that M Taylor was going to write a letter to the regions requesting more information. Chief Executive repeated that he was not aware of further correspondence on this topic from M Taylor at this stage.

18-050 OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:

050.1 Activity Reports & Operations Reports (10.1)

Staff responded to general queries from Councillors related to topics in their activities reports that were provided for information.

050.2 2017/18 CSI Sea Run Salmon Returns – A Season Summary (10.2)

M Webb's report was discussed, and it was noted that its looking more likely that the problem with salmon is off-shore and that we still know very little about smolt behaviour in a wild river.

M Hall requested, and it was **AGREED**, that this report and the report on the Waitaki Salmon Enhancement Projects contained in these October 2018 meeting papers be sent to the Sea-Run Salmon Committee members c/o M Taylor, NZC.

050.3 Opihi Trout Harvest Report (10.3)

J Couper presented Council with the outcomes of the trout harvest survey undertaken for the Opihi River in 2007/2008.

050.4 2018 Whole Season Gamebird Harvest (10.4)

J Couper presented Council with the result of the gamebird harvest surveys for the 2018 gamebird season. He reported that almost 60,000 waterfowl were harvested this season by CSI hunters with greylards showing as the most sought-after game bird making up 81 percent of the total season waterfowl harvest. Paradise shelduck made up a further 17.5 percent with the remaining one and a half percent made up of black swan, pukeko and shoveler, which are all hunted to a limited extent.

050.5 Waitaki Salmon Fishery Projects 2017/18 (10.5)

M Webb provided Council with a report updating progress for 2017/18 from the joint CSIF&G/Meridian Energy Ltd salmon spawning and rearing habitat enhancement programme in side streams of the Waitaki River.

L Koevoet queried why the Rangitata River has 3 to 4 spawning counts completed each year and the Waitaki only has one. Chief Executive responded that there is a physical reason for this. The Rangitata is consistently clear and much smaller than the Waitaki so it can be counted more times per year with regularity. This provides input to the NIWA model, used since 1992 to estimate the size of the spawning run in the Rangitata.

The Waitaki has generally poor water clarity and is a lot bigger in size compared to the Rangitata, which means it can't be flown with regularity. It can only be flown as the Waitaki River conditions allow. He agreed that one count doesn't allow the NIWA model to be applied to estimate the size of the spawning run.

18-051 NZFGC MATTERS:

M Hall provided a verbal update on NZC matters from the September 2018 meeting of the NZ Council. Topics included:

- Indigenous Fish Amendment Bill.
- Audits of regions – seems that NZC is spending an inordinate amount of time undertaking audits.
- R3 programme.
- Cawthron Report on Salmon Hatcheries and Stocking – a working party has been set up to look at best practice for hatchery stocking.
- National Sea-Run Salmon Committee – survey of regions to be completed. It was agreed to have staff representation with technical expertise on the Committee.

R Cosgrove gave an update on his activities noting he had handled a great deal of election information and maintained the election updates on the Fish and Game website.

18-046 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 16 August 2018 (Continued) - PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION:

Resolved (Isbister/Growcott) at 9:22 pm

18-045

THAT COUNCIL MOVE INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION TO APPROVE THE 16 AUGUST 2018 PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES.

Meeting resumed in open forum at 9:23 pm.

18-052 CHAIRMAN'S FAREWELL:

Chairman, G Rooney, noted this was his last CSI Council meeting after 27 years and thanked the Council for its support wishing the incoming Council all the best.

B Whipp noted this was also his last meeting and was sorry to see that G Rooney had decided not to stand in the election. He believed some of the items in the Timaru Herald were horrific and was particularly disappointed to see internet sites calling for people not to vote for certain individuals that were standing. He wished to clarify that P de Joux's facebook post signed under the McKinnons Trust was done off Mr de Joux's own bat and that he was not acting on behalf of the McKinnons Trust. B Whipp personally apologised to G Rooney for that. He has been asked by many people what type of Chairman G Rooney was and has always responded that whilst no one is perfect he found G Rooney to be a very good Chairperson and was sorry to see him go. He noted that he has always found J Graybill to have an open-door policy and has been treated very well by Mr Graybill over the past nine years on Council. He congratulated staff for going far beyond expectations and was honoured to work alongside them.

M Hall thanked G Rooney for 27 years of what he considered a huge effort. He noted that what Gary has given this Council is a strong commercial sense to become very professional in the things that Council does. Gary has always been a dedicated fisherman and hunter with strong family values. He congratulated Gary for coping under a lot of stress with CSI Fish and Game over the past few years and believes that is the real measure of a man. Gary is one for the community and has spent millions of dollars on a spawning race that he did not have to do but did so for the good of the salmon fishery. He believes it will only be when Gary is no longer on the Council that people will realise how much he has done for Fish and Game. He believed there has been too much attacking of the person and not attacking the issue.

P Shutt spoke from the floor noting that this outgoing Council should be proud of the work it has done under G Rooney's leadership. He hoped that the incoming Council would put its focus on the issues and not personalities.

G Rooney responded, thanking people for their thoughts and words. He congratulated and thanked Jay Graybill and his staff for their professionalism and the outstanding job that they do. He noted that this Council is currently held in very high regard amongst regional and district councils and had real concerns for what will happen in the near future with this incoming Council.

Meeting closed: 10:10 pm.

Next Council Meeting – Wednesday 14 November 2018, 7 pm.

Signed _____



Date _____

30/10/18

MINUTES OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED SECTION

of the 18 October 2018 Council Meeting

Resolved (Spry/Cruden)

18-046

**THAT THE MINUTES OF 16 AUGUST 2018 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION BE
ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.**

Resolved (Koevoet/Spry) at 9:23 pm

18-047

THAT COUNCIL MOVE OUT OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION.

Signed



Date

