

**MINUTES OF THE HAWKE'S BAY FISH & GAME COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
AT THE GAME FARM ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2018 AT 6.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Bates (Chairman), Hern, Williams, Niblett, Lumsden, Mackie and Duley

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Nathan Burkepile, Christine Tuck (Hawke's Bay Fish & Game staff) and Glenis Phillips (Minute Taker)

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Fred Nichol, Red Hooper, Matt Bradley (DOC representative), Ross MacKay and Colin Rose (Fish & Game Ranger).

### **1.0 WELCOME**

The chairman opened the meeting at 6.00pm and welcomed members of the public. He also welcomed and introduced the guest speaker Iain Maxwell Group Manager, Integrated Catchment Management with the Hawke's Bay Regional Council.

### **2.0 APOLOGIES**

No apology was received from Cr McIntosh.

### **3.0 PRESENTATION FROM GUEST SPEAKER, HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Iain Maxwell, Group Manager Integrated Catchment Management with the Hawke's Bay Regional Council gave a power point presentation, outlining future opportunities to connect and engage with landowners with some of the million dollar project funding and how working together with Fish & Game to develop and implement change and make positive differences to our land management and wetland creations would benefit the region.

He discussed how Hawke's Bay Regional Council aims to be more involved with the landowners and the importance of being able to connect with the landowners, as this was the key to enable his team to help make changes and potentially use the resources HBRC have to offer. Iain believes with Fish & Game's involvement together we could implement change and achieve great outcomes.

Iain explained how central and local government wants to see change and regulations are coming. In the interim there is a window of opportunity before national regulations are enforced.

Key objectives and aims are:

- Influence/Insulate/Invest/Instruct – the level of understanding across the wider community
- Dealing with biodiversity hotspots through the region and integrated intervention to achieve the outcomes
- Connecting with the community is vital
- Connecting with the landowners with assistance to use the current resources
- Landowners will see some change within the system – landowners control the influences

Iain concluded his presentation stating the Hawke's Bay Regional Councils primary aim at this point is to firstly promote the concept to the landowners and ideally by working in conjunction with Fish & Game and other organisations would give a win-win situation to achieving results. Iain left the meeting at 7.00pm.

#### **4.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

##### **AGREED**

**4.1** *That having previously been circulated to members, the Minutes of the meeting of the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 are a true and accurate record.*

*Lumsden/Hern*

#### **5.0 MATTERS ARISING**

- Council agreed to write to NZ Fish & Game Council in support of the Participation Report itemised in the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 agenda.
- NZ Landcare Biodiversity Part time Position has been advertised. Cr Bates & Nathan were investigating opportunities of this new position to work in partnership with Fish & Game's wetland work to maximise staff time and efforts.

#### **6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 2018 Junior Pheasant Hunt Draw
- Tutira Planting Day 21<sup>st</sup> July
- Use of the hatchery

#### **7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER**

No conflict of interest was registered.

#### **8.0 DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2018-2019 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN**

Cr Bates advised Councillors that any amendments made would go to Carmel Veitch, Eastern Fish & Game, to update and then this draft OWP would be circulated to the hunting and fishing clubs for comment.

Council discussed planning projects with no current fulltime manager. Cr Bates advised the council of the need to staying focused and the importance of keeping within the set timeframe of setting next year's Operational Work Plan.

Cr Niblett reminded council of the discussions our council had with Martin Taylor, Fish & Game CEO, at the April meeting on the Participation Paper and how he wanted council to prioritise a customer satisfaction survey (s) and set increased licence sales as primary goals. Setting and obtaining a baseline to monitor performance measures and monitoring if council are achieving their goals and listening to the licence holder was the aim of conducting satisfaction surveys.

Nathan informed council he and Carmel Veitch had discussed options such as Survey Monkey. Council instructed the NZ Council Appointee Cr Williams to enquire whether the NZ Council would consider conducting a satisfaction survey. It was suggested that if licence holders were their primary target then

we should be encouraging NZ Council to action such surveys. Nathan informed the cost for “Monkey Survey” is approx. \$40 per month. Agreed to add hours and \$ to conducting a satisfaction survey and investigate the options of adding additional questions to the gamebird hunter harvest survey.

Main issues discussed were:

Key objectives and aims needed to be identified to help format good the questions.

Analysing the data & measuring success

Repeat periods scheduled every 2-3 years.

The needs to identify what licence holders want and if we were achieving these goals.

Integrate some satisfaction questions with the Game Bird Hunter Survey.

Look at including this as part of our performance measure.

Discussions of why we use banding as a monitoring tool was raised and the concerns how currently the regions bag limits and regulations were set from data recorded from the previous year’s banding data. Council enquired with staff of the rationale of banding, the cost of staff time involved and how the 9k external costs were calculated. Council instructed staff to investigate other monitoring options available to produce relevant & current data to assist with setting the bag limits. It was agreed that the long term harvest survey data trends appear to be staying the same. Council agreed they had a statutory obligation to monitor, maintain & enhance and acknowledged the need to fulfil this obligation for the licence holder. It was agreed to remove from gamebird research to remove (iii) investigate the impacts of predators on waterfowl via field trial, from waterfowl monitoring remove (i) the banding and transient count flight survey and remove (ii) investigate the merits of releasing captive reared mallards.

Cr Bates advised council of the global consent granted by HBRC for the Game Farm and informed council if we didn’t use the allocated water, we would lose it. Council discussed the potential of a wetland enhancement project at the Game Farm as a working example for the public and landowners to visit. Nathan explained to the council the education wetland work from the Gamebird Habitat Trust grant of 4k hadn’t been carried out this year due to staffing circumstances, the funding deadline was 31 August 2019 however he had never been denied an extension of time if required.

Councillors discussed staff communication and performance measures and requested a weekly e-mail be sent all councillors each week after staff meetings informing our current projects and work in progress updates.

## **9.0 LICENCE FEES**

The New Zealand Council meeting was held on 27 April 2018 (telephone conference call) and licence fee recommendations for the 2018-2019 fishing and hunting seasons were addressed, NZ Council recommended that the sports fish licence fees be based on an adult whole season licence fee of \$130 (incl. GST), and the game licence fees be based on an adult whole season licence fee of \$96 (incl. GST) and \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp.

### **AGREED**

***9.0.1. That Council supports the proposed licence fee for the 2018-2019 season of \$130 (AWS Fish) and \$96 (AWS Game, inclusive of the \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp).***

*Lumsden/Hern*

## **10.0 2018-2019 ANGLER NOTICE**

Cr Williams informed councillors that other regions are waiting, The matter was discussed at the last Eastern Fish & Game Council meeting and it was concluded that Andy Garrick was to discuss further with Managers and the New Zealand Council.

Cr Williams advised our Council to put something in writing and then it will be forced onto the NZ Council agenda. He said when putting this forward make sure to say that – Hawke's Bay Fish & Game write to NZ Council requesting the use of multiple point hooks be prohibited nationally and included on Schedule 1. For trout fishing only.

Add Lake Hawkston to Schedule 11. Season length 1 Nov – 31 March with the daily bag limit of 2. Fishing permitted only in daylight hours and phoning Dave Mc Phee 0275-422-665 prior to access of the lake. Walk in only

### **AGREED**

*10.0.1. That council approves the 2018-19 Anglers Notice with the inclusion of Lake Hawkston as a fishery from 1 November to 31 March.*

*Lumsden/Hern*

## **11.0 APPOINTMENT OF AN ACTING REGIONAL MANAGER**

At the Extraordinary meeting held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018 there was unanimous agreement regarding the appointment of an acting regional manager.

### **AGREED**

*11.1 Council agreed to confirm what was unanimously agreed to at the extraordinary meeting which was to appoint Cr Bates as the Acting Regional Manager (as an unpaid position) until such time as a new Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Manger is appointed.*

*Hern/Lumsden*

## **12.0 APPOINTMENT PROCESS OF A REGIONAL MANAGER**

At the Extraordinary meeting held 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 council discussed appointing a selection recruitment panel to review the applications for the Regional manager's position. It was agreed to keep the same three Councillors (Cr Bates, Cr Lumsden and Cr Niblett) who were appointed to the Review Executive Committee at the council meeting held November 30<sup>th</sup> 2017.

The committee informed councillors

- The job applications closed on 8 June 2018.
- Background checks on successful personnel were progressing
- Thank you letters to the unsuccessful applicants have been sent out
- The Review Committee will be at interview stage shortly and will report back to Councillors with the results

Councilors acknowledged and thanked both Christine and Nathan for the extra work they have been doing in absence of a full time Manager.

### **AGREED**

*12.1 Council agreed to appointing Cr Bates (Chairman), Cr Lumsden and Cr Niblett to the recruitment panel to appoint the new Regional Manager.*

*Duley/Mackie*

## **13.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORT**

### **13.1 EAST COAST/HAWKE'S BAY CONSERVATION BOARD**

Nothing Tabled

### **13.2 REPORTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES**

Nothing Tabled

### **13.3 REPORTS FROM NEW ZEALAND COUNCIL**

Cr Williams updated council on matters discussed at the NZ Council meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

- A joint meeting was held with Managers and a Contestable Funding Board established
- It was agreed to audit all Councils staff salaries and terms and conditions to standardise salary scales.
- Licence Fee set at \$130 Fish and \$96 game
- Staff Development Grant
- Proposed Research Funding
  1. Cost benefit analysis NZ Sports Fish hatcheries
  2. Native Fish/Sports Fish interactions
- Minor adjustment of fishing licence ratios
- Strategic planning workshop to begin to formulate a strategic plan for NZ Council for 2018-21

## **14.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

### **14.1 Management Report**

#### **AGREED**

*14.1.1 That the Management Report be accepted*

*Hern/Niblett*

### **14.2 Health and Safety Report**

#### **AGREED**

*14.2.1 That Council agrees to the renewal of the contract with Smartrak 's GPS System , transferring the existing GPS unit from the 2013 Nissan Navarra into the replacement vehicle and incorporating the vehicle Smartrak GPS system into HBF&G Health & Safety Policy.*

*Niblett/ Lumsden  
Against Williams*

### 14.3 Finance Report

**AGREED**

*14.3.1 That the payments for March 2018 and April 2018 totalling \$70,733.10 be approved as per Tables 5 and 6.*

*Williams/Niblett*

**AGREED**

*14.3.2 That council agrees to Mark Venman be removed as a signatory and authoriser to all Westpac Bank accounts and the Westpac Business Mastercard is destroyed.*

*Williams/Hern*

### 14.4 Licence Report

**AGREED**

*14.4.1 That council agrees to the Licence Sales Report be accepted.*

*Williams/Lumsden*

### 15.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Junior Pheasant Shoot draw was drawn by staff
- Tutira Planting day scheduled 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018 – Fish & Game Hawke's Bay donated 5K and have organized 15 volunteers for this community planting day.
- Potential duck breeding area – Nathan to check this out
- Further spawning work in the Tukituki River and Esk River was being investigated by Tom Winlove..
- Dr Adam Canning from Wellington Fish & Game has expressed an interest in using the Hatchery for native fish /trout interaction research work. Water sample has been taken to check the nitrogen levels

### 16.0 MEETING CLOSES

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm

**CONFIRMED**

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**CHAIRMAN**



**DATE:** 7 / 8 / 2018

## SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

### 4.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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*Lumsden/Hern*

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#### AGREED

*9.1. That Council supports the proposed licence fee for the 2018-2019 season of \$130 (AWS Fish) and \$96 (AWS Game, inclusive of the \$3 Game Bird Habitat Stamp).*

*Lumsden/Hern*

### 10.0 2018 – 2019 ANGLERS NOTICE

#### AGREED

*10.0.1. That council approves the 2018-19 Anglers Notice with the inclusion of Lake Hawkston as a fishery from 1 November to 31 March.*

*Lumsden/Hern*

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#### AGREED

*11.1 Council agreed to confirmed what was unanimously agreed to at the extraordinary meeting which was to appoint Cr Bates as the Acting Regional Manager (as an unpaid position) until such time as a new Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Manger is appointed.*

*Hern/Lumsden*

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*Duley/Mackie*

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#### AGREED

*14.1.1 That the Management Report be accepted*

*Hern/Niblett*

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### **AGREED**

***14.2.1 That Council agrees to the renewal of the contract with Smartrak 's GPS System , transferring the existing GPS unit from the 2013 Nissan Navarra into the replacement vehicle and incorporating the vehicle Smartrak GPS system into HBF&G Health & Safety Policy.***

*Niblett/ Lumsden  
Abstained Williams*

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*Williams/Niblett*

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*Williams/Hern*

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***14.4.1 That the Licence Report be accepted.***

*Williams/Lumsden*