

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the
Southland Regional Council, held in Regional House,
corner North Road and Price Street, Invercargill, on
Wednesday, 26 February 2020 at 10.35 am**



Present:	Chairman N Horrell (Chair)	
	Cr NMG Cook	
	Cr I L Esler	
	Cr R L Guyton	
	Cr L R Ludlow	
	Cr B E Mager	
	Cr L J McCallum	
	Cr P G McDonald	
	Cr J A McPhail	
	Cr D H Stevens	
In Attendance:	R Phillips	(Chief Executive)
	W Falconer	(GM Strategy and Engagement)
	A Kubrycht	(GM People and Capability)
	N Selman	(GM Corporate Services)
	V Smith	(GM Policy, Planning and Regulatory Services)
	J Streat	(GM Operations)
	L Cleaver	(Maritime Manager – Harbourmaster)
	P Haynes	(Catchment Operations Manager)
	A Morgan	(Acting Manager Policy and Planning)
	T Hawkins	(Finance Manager) G Jefferies (Communications and Engagement Manager)
	C Jenkins	(Team Leader, Hydrological Response)
	C Sinclair	(Team Leader Response EMS)
	C Young	(Technical Services Engineer)
	K McLachlan	(Policy Planner)
	A Meade	(Biosecurity and Biodiversity Operations Manager)
	R Bangi	(Policy Planner)
	K Harper	(PA)

1 Welcome (*Haere mai*)

The Chairman welcomed members to the first meeting of Council for 2020.

2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

Resolved:

Moved Cr McCallum, seconded Cr Cook, that apologies for absence be accepted on behalf of Cr A Baird and Cr E Roy (leave of absence previously granted).

Carried

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

Raylene Carston elected to withdraw her presentation to Council on the Great South Basin exploration and possible impacts on Southland. There were no other Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations.

5 Confirmation of Minutes (*Whakau korero*)

(a) Ordinary Meeting of Council – 11 December 2019

Resolved:

Moved Cr McCallum, seconded Cr Mager, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 11 December 2019 be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

6 Adoption of Committee Resolutions

(a) Otago Southland Regional Transport Committee – 4 February 2020

Cr McCallum commented that the meeting was beneficial and a Southland Regional Transport workshop had been called for and an invitation extended to Crs Roy and McPhail, who had previously served on the committee, to attend and provide some background for new committee members.

Resolved:

Moved McCallum, seconded Cr Ludlow, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Otago Southland Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 4 February 2020 be adopted.

Carried

(b) Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – 10 February 2020

Resolved:

Moved Cr McCallum, seconded Cr McPhail, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meeting held on 10 February 2020 be adopted.

Carried

(c) South Port Sub-committee – 13 February 2020

Resolved:

Moved Cr Stevens, seconded Cr Ludlow, that Council adopt the resolutions from the South Port Sub-committee meeting held on 13 February 2020 be adopted.

Carried

(d) Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – 17 February 2020

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Esler, that Council adopt the resolutions from the Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meeting held on 17 February 2020 be adopted.

Carried

7 Notification of Extraordinary and Urgent Business (*He Panui Autaia hei Totoia Pakihi*)

7.1 Supplementary Reports

There were no supplementary reports provided to the meeting.

7.2 Other

There were no other items of business raised by Councillors for inclusion in the agenda.

8 Questions (*Patai*)

Cr Guyton withdrew his question which had been notified in the agenda. There were no other questions.

9 Chairman and Councillor's Reports (*Nga Purongo-a-Tumuaki me nga Kaunihera*)

⇒ Chairman's Report

Circulated with the agenda was a report of activities that the Chairman had undertaken on behalf of Council since the last meeting. No discussion arose.

⇒ Councillors' Reports

The written Councillor reports, circulated with the agenda, were noted.

Cr Guyton commented that two very successful Climate Change Action Plan Committee meetings had been held since the formation of the committee. Staff had reported to the committee at both meetings and Cr Guyton noted this had been very beneficial. Discussion and outcomes from the committee would feed into Strategy and Policy meetings. The opportunity for all councillors to contribute to and attend the Climate Change Action Plan Committee at any time, remained.

Cr McCallum advised he had attended the morning part of the Combined River Liaison Committee Chairs meeting on 11 February 2020, on behalf of Chairman Horrell. He noted it was important to keep connecting with catchment groups and working with them, going forward.

Cr McDonald had attended the afternoon session of the Combined River Liaison Committee Chairs meeting on 11 February 2020. He commented that the presentation by Great South on their low carbon and zero carbon initiatives was very interesting.

Chairman Horrell thanked Cr Cook for his comprehensive report on the Project AF8 South Island Meeting that took place on 27 and 28 January 2020, in Blenheim.

10 Staff Report – 20/C/13

⇒ Item 1 – Chief Executive's Report

Presentation – February 2020 Flood Event Report

Staff from Hydrology, Catchment and Emergency Management Southland (EMS) presented on the February Flood event, highlighting data collection and reporting, data sharing on the Environment Southland website and Emergency Management readiness, response and recovery.

Mr Phillips, along with Chairman Horrell and councillors, formally thanked Emergency Management Southland and all Environment Southland staff who were part of “an impressive and well run flood event response”.

In response to a question around members of the public not heeding the advice of EMS, particularly advice involving safety, road safety and closed roads, Mr Sinclair advised there had been issues with tourists trying to get to their destinations and using Google Maps to try and bypass the closed roads. A number of people were on route to Invercargill for the Burt Munro weekend and this had also posed issues as people, again, bypassed closed roads, often using unsuitable routes. By in large however, the Southland community followed the cautions and advice of EMS and adhered to the road closures put in place.

Regarding communication blips between the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) and EMS in the early stages of the response period, Mr Sinclair advised that the NZTA website was slow in updating information for the public as they had not entered response mode at the same time as EMS. This was rectified early on and communication between the two agencies improved greatly.

Agreed by consensus:

That it be recorded that the Chairman, Councillors and the Chief Executive thank and acknowledge the work of Emergency Management Southland and Environment Southland staff during the February 2020 flooding event in Southland.

The meeting returned to the Chief Executive's report which had been distributed with the agenda and provided Council with a governance overview of pan organisational current matters, including updates from all direct reports to the Chief Executive on topical matters.

In light of some vessels in Fiordland not complying with marine rules, it was commented that perhaps Environment Southland compliance monitoring visits into Fiordland needed to take place more frequently than twice a year. Mr Phillips advised that activity in the marine space was currently being reviewed in conjunction with MPI and DOC. Mrs Meade joined the discussion from the floor noting that University of Otago were currently assisting with surveillance and risk management, looking at high risk moorings and where boats were coming from to develop a recommendation on how often monitoring should be carried out.

With regards to E-Roads Vehicle and Safety tracking and in response to a question, Mr Phillips explained that this was a vehicle tracking system being installed into Environment Southland vehicles in order to effectively manage vehicles and vehicle use. Council would receive a briefing once the system was fully installed and up and running.

Resolved:

Moved Cr McCallum, seconded Cr Cook, that Council note the report.

Carried

⇒ Item 2 – Financial Report to 31 December 2019

This item was for Council to note the financial report for the six month period from 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019. The report was taken as read.

Responding to a question around consultancy fees being over budget, Mrs Hawkins advised that Consents consultancy fees were over budget due to some large and technical consents requiring expert input.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr McCallum, that Council note the financial report.

Carried

⇒ **Item 3 – Financial Reporting to Council**

The purpose of this item was for Council to approve the process of presenting financial information to the Organisational Performance and Audit Committee only

Mr Selman explained that at a recent Organisational Performance and Audit Committee (OPAC) workshop, it had been suggested that it would be sufficient for financial reports to be reported at OPAC meetings only, to avoid duplication and to keep in line with the OPAC Terms of Reference.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr McPhail, that Council approve that all future financial reports are to be presented through the Organisational Performance and Audit Committee.

Carried

⇒ **Item 4 – Investment Report to 31 December 2019**

This item was for Council to note the investment report to 31 December 2019.

As at 31 December 2019 Council had \$35,289,543 invested. There was some discussion about volatility in the market and the potential impact coronavirus may have globally, and on Environment Southland's investments. Mr Selman noted it would be prudent to seek advice from the organisation's investment portfolio managers. Updates would be provided to council as required.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr McDonald, that Council note the investment report.

Carried

⇒ **Item 5 – Adoption of the 2019-2022 Southland Region Triennial Agreement**

This item was for Council to adopt the 2019-2022 Triennial Agreement.

Resolved:

Moved Cr McCallum, seconded Chairman Horrell, that Council:

- 1. consider the reviewed Southland Regional Triennial Agreement; and**
- 2. pursuant to Section 15, Local Government Act 2002 adopt the 2019-2022 Triennial Agreement and apply the Common Seal.**

Carried

⇒ **Item 6 – Request for Funding support – Fiordland Marine Search and Rescue**

This item was for Council to consider a request from Fiordland Marine Search and Rescue Inc (FMSAR) for annual funding to support the volunteer group's marine search and rescue activities.

Mr Selman advised that a business case had been presented to Council by FMSAR requesting Council's consideration to donate \$5,000 for the 2019/20 financial year, sourced from the Marine Fee Reserve. Further, that an annual donation be incorporated into the first three years of the 2021-2031 Long-term Plan, of as yet an undetermined amount, also sourced from the Marine Fee Reserve.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Stevens, that Council:

- 1. note the request based on the business case provided by Fiordland Marine Search and Rescue Inc;**
- 2. donate a sum of \$5,000 (GST exclusive) for the 2019/20 financial year to be sourced from the Marine Fee Reserve;**
- 3. incorporate an annual donation (amount to be decided by Council) into the first three years of the 2021-31 Long-term Plan, with those funds being sourced from the Marine Fee Reserve.**

Carried

⇒ **Item 7 – Environment Southland's Submission on the Draft National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity**

This item was for Council's approval of the submission to be made on the draft National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity that staff had prepared in conjunction with councillors.

Resolved:

Moved Cr McCallum, seconded Cr McPhail, that Council:

- 1. note the submission points and concerns outlined in the attached Environment Southland's submission on the draft National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity;**
- 2. approve the lodgement of the submission.**

Carried

⇒ Item 8 – Update to Staff Delegations Manual

The purpose of this item was to make a further amendment to the Staff Delegations Manual.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr McCallum, that Council approve the proposed changes to the Staff Delegations Manual as outlined in Schedule 1, effective immediately.

Carried

⇒ Item 9 – Local Government NZ Zone 5 and 6 Meeting - Attendance

This item was for Council to approve the attendance of Council representatives at the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Zone 5 and 6 meeting, scheduled to be held in Ashburton on 15-17 March 2020.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Stevens, seconded Cr Mager, that Council:

- 1. appoint Cr Cook to attend the Combined Zone 5/6 meeting to be held in Ashburton from Sunday 15 to Tuesday 17 March 2020;**
- 2. meet the associated costs of travel, accommodation and meals for Cr Cook to attend the meeting.**

Carried

⇒ Item 10 – Councillors' Meeting Schedule – February to April 2020

This item was for Council to approve the meeting schedule that had been circulated with the agenda. Further amendments to that schedule were advised as follows:

- 25 February 2020 – Regional Forum – Cr McPhail
- 27 February 2020 – Welcoming Communities – Cr Ludlow
- 25 February 2020 – Attendance at the Powhiri, dinner and Runanga hui with the Regional Forum – Crs McCallum, Ludlow, McDonald and Guyton

- 25 February 2020 – Attendance at the Regional Forum Field Trip – Cr McCallum
- 11 March 2020 – Council briefing – State of Southland’s Environment, followed by the Water & Land Plan Appeals – Topic A – all Councillors
- 12 March 2020 – Coastal Plan Workshop – continuation of Workshops 1 and 2 – all Councillors
- 19 March 2020 – Climate Action Plan Working Group Meeting #4 – Crs Roy, Guyton, Mager, and Chairman Horrell

Leave of absence requests received by the meeting were:

- Cr Cook – 2 March 2020 – 10 March 2020
- Cr McPhail – 14 April 2020 to 21 April 2020 (to confirm end date)

Resolved:

Moved Cr Mager, seconded Cr McDonald, that Council:

1. **appoint members to represent Council at the meetings marked on the schedule;**
2. **pay meeting fees and/or allowances in accordance with its policy and detailed on the schedule;**
3. **approve the leave of absence requests for Cr Cook (2 March 2020-10 March 2020) and Cr McPhail (14 April 2020 to 21 April 2020 (end date to be confirmed)).**

Carried

⇒ **Item 11 – Common Seal**

This item was to note the documents to which the Common Seal had been applied under approved authorisation.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr McCallum, that Council note the document to which the Common Seal has been affixed under approved authorisation.

Carried

1 Extraordinary and Urgent Business (*Panui Autaia hei Totoia Pakihi*)

7.1 Supplementary Reports Item 1 Update to Staff Delegations Manual

There was no extraordinary or urgent business.

12 Public Excluded Business (*He hui Pakihi e haram o te iwi*)

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr McDonald, that in accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act (or sections 6, 7 or 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may be), it is moved that the public is excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 30 September 2019;
- confirmation of the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 11 December 2019;
- adoption of Committee Resolutions from the Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – 10 February 2020;
- adoptions of the Committee Resolutions from the Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – 17 February 2020
- Item 12 – Cruise Ship Deed of Agreement – GRT Cap Removal.

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public, as specified by s.48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, are set out below:

<i>General Subject Matter</i>	<i>Reason for Passing the Resolution</i>	<i>Grounds under S. 48(1)</i>
Confirmation of Minutes Ordinary Meeting of Council – 30 September 2019	To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage.	S.7(2)(j)
Confirmation of Minutes Ordinary Meeting of Council – 11 December 2019	To allow Council to carry out commercial activities (including commercial and industrial) without prejudice or disadvantage.	S.7(2)(h)
Adoption of Committee Resolutions – Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – 10 February 2020	To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage.	S.7(2)(j)
	To protect the privacy of natural persons	S.7(2)(a)
Adoption of Committee Resolutions – Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – 17 February 2020	To allow Council to carry out commercial activities (including commercial and industrial) without prejudice or disadvantage.	S.7(2)(h)
Item 12 – Cruise Ship Deed of Agreement – GRT Cap Removal	To allow Council to carry out commercial activities (including commercial and industrial) without prejudice or disadvantage.	S.7(2)(h)

<i>General Subject Matter</i>	<i>Reason for Passing the Resolution</i>	<i>Grounds under S. 48(1)</i>
	<p>To avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health and safety of members of the public.</p> <p>To deliberate on matters relating to proceedings where a right of appeal lies to a court against the final decision of the council in those proceedings.</p>	<p>S.7(2)(d)</p> <p>S.48(1)(d)</p>

It is further moved that Rob Phillips, Neil Selman, Vin Smith, Alex Morgan, Kathryn McDonald, Lyndon Cleaver, Gail Jefferies and Kirsten Harper be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of Item 12 – Cruise Ship Deed of Agreement – GRT Removal.

Carried

Resumed in Open Meeting

Termination

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.20 pm.