

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Southland
Regional Council, held in Regional House, corner
North Road and Price Street, Invercargill, on
Wednesday, 21 April 2021 at 10.30 am**



Present: Chairman N Horrell (Chair)
Cr N Cook
Cr L Esler
Cr R Guyton
Cr L Ludlow
Cr P McDonald
Cr J McPhail
Cr B Mager
Cr D Stevens
Cr E Roy

In Attendance: Mr R Phillips (Chief Executive)
Mrs W Falconer (GM Strategy, Planning and Engagement)
Mr D Rule (Interim GM Integrated Catchment Management)
Mrs G Jefferies (Manager Communications and Engagement)
Mrs L Hicks (Policy and Planning Manager)
Mr L Cleaver (Maritime Manager/Harbour Master)
Ms K McLachlan (Policy Planner)
Mrs L Tamati (Communications Coordinator)
Mr B Rickertson (Digital Media)
Mrs J Brown (Executive Assistant)
Mrs N Baxter (Personal Assistant)

1 Welcome (*Haere mai*)

The Chairman welcomed members to the April meeting of Council.

2 Apologies (*Nga Pa Pouri*)

The Chairman informed the meeting that Cr McCallum and Cr Baird were absent from the meeting on Council business.

Resolved:

Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Ludlow, that an apology for absence be recorded on behalf of Cr McCallum and Cr Baird.

Carried

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

The Chair advised that there was a deputation to be presented and welcomed the speakers to come forward.

Mr David Rose and Ms Katie Allan spoke to this item. Ms Allan informed Council that they wished to speak about the Consent Application that AB Lime Ltd had lodged with Environment Southland last year. Key points from the groups presentation are listed below:

- The new consent would allow AB Lime to accept unlimited waste intake for 35 years.
- AB Lime could take landfill from all around the lower South Island.
- Only neighbours within two kilometres were notified via post of the application.
- The neighbours were give only four weeks, during a holiday period to write a submission in response.
- Only five submissions were received, and it was felt that the public of Southland should have been notified of this application.
- Winton township is only four kilometres away from the AB Lime landfill site.
- The group wanted a much shorter consent period and a limit put on the tonnage of waste that could be dumped at the AB Lime landfill.
- It was felt that AB Lime would have a monopoly in landfill provisions if this went ahead and that this would be commercially unfair.
- AB Lime had admitted that they don't always operate to their full consent conditions.
- Concern was raised about the carbon footprint created with trucking waste to Southland from all around the lower South Island.
- 1000 people had signed a petition to decline the application at the time of the meeting.
- Winton didn't want to be known for being the toxic waste dumpsite.
- Concerns were raised about a toxic leachate that could make its way to the water ways.
- It was felt by the group that here should have been more than one commissioner handling this issue.
- Mr Rose then circulated a graph showing predicted waste increases over the coming years.
- The group asked for submissions to be re-opened if possible.

Following the group's presentation Council clarified some of the key points with the speakers.

Chairman Horrell then thanked the group for taking the time to come and speak to Council about their concerns. He reminded the speakers that Council cannot interfere with the process which was legislated, but noted the hearing would be held in public and given the interest, would receive significant scrutiny.

5 Confirmation of Minutes (*Whakau korero*)

(a) Ordinary Meeting of Council – 10 March 2021

Resolved:

Moved Cr Roy, seconded Cr McPhail, that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 10 March 2021 be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

[Cr McDonald left the meeting at 11.48am]

6 Adoption of Committee Resolutions

(a) Strategy and Policy Committee – 31 March 2021

Cr Roy highlighted the key points from the meeting. No discussion arose.

[Cr McDonald returned to the meeting at 11.50am]

Resolved:

Moved Cr Roy, seconded Cr Stevens, that the resolutions from the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting held on 31 March 2021 be adopted.

Carried

(b) Regulatory Committee – 31 March 2021

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Mager, that the resolutions from the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 31 March 2021 be adopted.

Carried

(c) Organisational Performance and Audit Committee – 1 April 2021

Cr Ludlow noted the meeting focused on the risk elements of the organisation. No discussion arose from her report.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Ludlow, seconded Cr Mager, that the resolutions from the Organisational Performance and Audit Committee held on 1 April 2021 be adopted.

Carried

(d) Regional Services Committee – 1 April 2021

Resolved:

Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Ludlow, that the resolutions from the Regional Services Committee held on 1 April 2021 be adopted.

Carried

(e) South Port Subcommittee – 1 April 2021

Resolved:

Moved Cr Stevens, seconded Cr Roy, that the resolutions from the South Port Subcommittee held on 1 April 2021 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*)

There were no questions asked by the meeting.

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 under this item.

⇒ Councillors' Reports

Cr Cook

A report was tabled on the Zone 5 and 6 meeting that Cr Cook attended in Wanaka. He said it was good that Environment Southland had attended the meeting and had some input into the issues coming up regarding the Three waters. Although Environment Southland was not as directly affected as some of the other Councils, it

was good to be kept aware of the issues. A further meeting was scheduled to happen in Christchurch next week that Chairman Horrell and Mr Phillips will attend.

Cr Esler

Cr Esler attended the Bluff Community Board Meeting this week. He informed the group that the channel was being dredged along with wharf repairs. This raised concerns over the possible disruption that could be caused to vessels making their way in and out of the harbour. There was also discussion at the meeting about sealing the Omaui road.

Cr Ludlow

The Enviro Schools Hui was held at Omaui last Friday which Cr Ludlow attended. She said that it was a fantastic day of learning about flax weaving, and the historic use of plants, and the Aqua van was down from Otago University for the students to engage with. Cr Ludlow also commented on how good it was to see mentorship from Aparima and Aurora College students who had a more in depth knowledge on the items being discussed. It was pleasing to see the older students passing on their knowledge and helping the younger students.

Cr McDonald

Cr McDonald attended the Thriving Southland Community Meeting Workshop in Winton. He was impressed with Thriving Southland embracing the changes that were coming and felt it was very worthwhile attending. He and Cr McPhail had also attended a Dairy New Zealand meeting.

10 Staff Report – 21/C/33

⇒ Item 1 – Chief Executive’s Report

The Chief Executive’s report was distributed with the agenda and provided Council with a governance overview of organisational current matters noting the key points:

- Water Reforms were continuing with pace;
- Intensive Winter Grazing regulations had been deferred for one year;
- There were clear expectations that there needed to be an improvement this winter;
- Environment Southland is working with Otago Regional Council and Canterbury around what needs to be done as a result of the intensive winter grazing requirements;
- Work programmes are getting into the last quarter of the financial year, and a significant amount of work was happening with the mediation for the proposed Water and Land Plan;
- New research shows that the rupture of the alpine fault has a 75% chance of occurring in the next 50 years;
- The AF8 Road Show will be in Invercargill on 24 May 2021 and everyone was encouraged to attend.

Cr Roy asked for clarification between MPI and Environment Southland responsibilities re biosecurity matters in relation to aquaculture applications. In response to questions about resourcing, monitoring and compliance with intensive winter grazing matters, Mr Phillips advised staff were currently developing a work programme to address those

matters. He advised that Council was involving other agencies in this work as well and was focusing on the behaviour changes that were required.

Cr Cook also updated the meeting on the work of the Project AF8 Co-ordinator and the education programme around resilient communities.

Resolved:

Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Stevens, that Council note the report of Chief Executive for the month of April 2021.

Carried

⇒ Item 2 – Judging Policy – Environment Southland’s Community Awards

Mrs Jefferies spoke to this item saying that this Policy intends to formalise the process that is already in place for the Environment Southland Community Awards. It also put in place a commitment of judging for the Environment Awards.

The question was raised if a plan had been put together in case of lockdown so that the event could be run on line. Mrs Jefferies said that they did not have a plan, but they would look into what they could do should lockdown occur. Cr Guyton also felt it may be a cost saving option to run the awards online. Mrs Jefferies replied that it is was a good opportunity for organisations to get together and celebrate. But she would look into the possibility of livestreaming the awards.

There was discussion about the possibility of having a third trainee or alternate judge nominated in case one of the judges were unavailable come the time of judging. It was felt that this would be wise for the future also.

The Chairman then called for nominations to judge the Environment Southland Awards. Nominations were received for:

- Cr Ludlow;
- Cr Stevens; and
- Cr McDonald as a trainee/alternate judge.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr McPhail, that Council:

- 1. adopt the judging policy for the Environment Southland Community Awards;**
- 2. appoint Cr Ludlow and Cr Stevens as judges for the Environment Southland Community Awards 2021/2022.**
- 3. appoint Cr McDonald as a trainee/alternate judge for the Environment Southland Community Awards 2021/2022.**

Carried

⇒ **Item 3 – Transfer of Building Act Functions for Large Dams to Environment Canterbury**

This item sought Council approval to transfer its Building Act functions in relation to large dams, to Environment Canterbury. Previously the Otago Regional Council had undertaken this function for Environment Southland but Otago Regional Council had indicated that they are withdrawing and it was now proposed that Environment Canterbury undertake the work. The Agreement transferring the Building Act functions to Environment Canterbury had been legally reviewed, and Environment Southland would pay one third of the share in the cost to transfer the function. The annual fee would also be shared with the other two Councils.

Cr McPhail asked for examples of where this work would be needed around Southland. Mr Gilder gave examples of the Manapouri hydro dam, Monowai hydro dam, and the weir at Manapouri.

Chairman Horrell abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest, noting his son had previously worked for Otago Regional Council in this area.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr McPhail, that Council:

- 1. approve the Agreement transferring the Building Act Functions for large dams to Environment Canterbury;**
- 2. approve the affixing of the common seal to the Agreement subject to Environment Canterbury executing the Agreement;**
- 3. approve the variation to the existing Agreement with Otago Regional Council to ensure consistency with the transfer of functions to Environment Canterbury;**
- 4. approve the affixing of the common seal to the variation to the existing Agreement.**

Carried

⇒ **Item 4 – Local Government New Zealand Annual General Conference and Regional Sector Group Pre-conference Tour**

Council approval of the appointment of delegates to attend the LGNZ Conference and pre-conference tour was required. The Chair called for interest with the following Councillors being nominated:

- Chairman Horrell;
- Cr McCallum;
- Cr Baird;
- Cr Ludlow; and
- Cr McPhail.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Roy, seconded Cr Stevens, that Council:

- 1. note that the Local Government New Zealand Annual Conference and General Meeting is to be held in Blenheim from 15 to 17 July 2019;**
- 2. appoint Chairman Horrell, Cr McCallum, Cr Baird, Cr Ludlow and Cr McPhail as its delegates to attend the LGNZ Conference, and appoint Chairman Horrell and Cr McCallum as its delegates to attend the Annual General Meeting;**
- 3. approve payment of conference registration, travel, accommodation and associated expenses for those Councillors attending;**
- 4. approve attendance at, and payment of travel, accommodation and associated expenses for Chairman Horrell, Cr McCallum, Cr Baird, Cr Ludlow and Cr McPhail participating in the Marlborough District Council Pre-conference tour from 12-14 July 2021.**

Carried

⇒ Item 5 – Councillors’ Meeting Schedule – April 2021 to June 2021

Mrs Brown informed the Committee that the following meetings needed to be added to the Meeting Schedule:

- Pamu Landcorp Workshop in Gore on 20 April 2021 that Councillor McPhail attended;
- Meeting with Eugenie Sage with the Chairman on the 19 April 2021;
- Regional Transport Committee Hearing in Queenstown on 20 April 2021 that Cr Baird and Cr McCallum attended;
- South Island Regional Council Governance Group Meeting via Zoom on 29 April 2021;
- Intensive Winter Grazing Zoom Meeting on 27 April Chairman Horrell attended;
- Ballance Agri Nutrients Board dinner has moved from 27 April to 28 April and was open to all Councillors;
- Bluff Maritime Museum Meeting on 3 May 2021 at 9.00 am in Bluff with Cr Elser and Cr Cook attending;
- Extraordinary Meeting of Council to adopt the Long-term Plan Consultation Document on 3 May at 10.00 am.

Resolved:

Moved Cr McPhail, seconded Cr Stevens, that Council note the planned meetings and:

- 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.**

Carried

⇒ **Item 6 – Reporting of Expenditure above Delegated Authority**

Mrs Brown spoke to this item saying that the Chief Executive had delegated authority for payments up to \$300,000. An invoice had been received for \$374,381.50 which was for the completion of recent spraying and control work. This work was part of the Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trust programmed work. In accordance with Council's Delegations Manual, this account had been paid, and Council was being advised of this payment. Mrs Brown said that it was expected that more large invoices would be received by Environment Southland in regards to the Shovel Ready work that was being progressed.

Resolved:

Moved Cr Cook, seconded Cr Roy that Council note the payment of an account amounting to \$374,381.50, for the completion of recent spraying/control work as part of the Mid Dome Wilding Trees Charitable Trust programmed work.

Carried

⇒ **Item 7 – Common Seal**

There was no discussion under this item.

Resolved:

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

Carried

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

There was no extraordinary or urgent business.

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

Resolved:

Moved Cr Roy, seconded Cr Cook, that the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting.

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 under Section 48(1) of the Local Government

Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of the resolution are as follows:

<i>General Subject Matter</i>	<i>Reason for Passing the Resolution</i>	<i>Grounds under S. 48(1)</i>
Adoption of Committee Resolutions		
Organisational Performance and Audit Committee – 1 April 2021	To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.	S.7 (2)(a)
	To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or advantage	S.7(2)(j)
South Port Sub-committee – 1 April 2021	To allow Council to carry on negotiations, including commercial and industrial, without prejudice or disadvantage.	S.7(2)(h)
South Port New Zealand Limited – Directors’ Recruitment and Succession Planning	To allow Council to carry on negotiations, including commercial and industrial, without prejudice or disadvantage.	S.7(2)(h)
Cruise Ship Deed of Agreement Review	To allow Council to carry on negotiations, including commercial and industrial, without prejudice or disadvantage.	S.7(2)(h)

It is further moved that staff present be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded.

Carried

Termination

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.57 pm.