

**Minutes of the Regulatory Committee, Whakaretea,
meeting of the Southland Regional Council, held in
Regional House, corner North Road and Price Street,
Invercargill, on Thursday 11 May 2023, at 2.30 pm**



Present:	Cr N Cook (Chair) Cr P McDonald Cr R Guyton Chairman N Horrell (ex officio)
Also Present:	Cr L Ludlow
In Attendance:	Mr P Hulse (General Manager, Integrated Catchment Management) Mrs N Sharpe (Corporate Communications Advisor) Mr B Halligan (Consents Manager) Mrs D Ferguson (Resource Management Manager) Mr L Cleaver (Regional Harbourmaster) Ms K McLachlan (Acting Biodiversity and Biosecurity Manager) Ms J Hazley (Team Leader, Biodiversity and Biosecurity) Mrs E Kini (Personal Assistant)

1 Welcome | Haere mai

The Chairman welcomed members to the Regulatory Committee meeting for May 2023.

2 Apologies | Nga Pa Pouri

Resolved:

Moved Chairman Horrell, seconded Cr McDonald, that apologies for absence be recorded on behalf of Crs Rodway, McPhail and Gibson.

Carried

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at this time.

4 Public Forum, Petitions and Deputations | He Huinga tuku korero

There were no public forum, petitions or deputations presented to the meeting.

5 Confirmation of Minutes | Whakau korero – 15 February 2023

Resolved:

Moved Chairman Horrell, seconded Cr Cook, that the minutes of the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 15 February 2022 be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Cr Ludlow asked for an update on the proposed Bluff Haul-out facility. Mr Hulse advised discussions had commenced with South Port New Zealand Ltd, Invercargill City Council and Iwi to understand the position of each organisation and alignment for the facility. Council will be updated in the near future.

6 Notification of Extraordinary and Urgent Business | He Panui Autaia hei Totia Pakihi

(a) Supplementary Report

There were no supplementary reports considered by the meeting.

(b) Other

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

7 Questions | Patai

Cr Cook asked the following questions:

- (1) There are few locally qualified commissioners available for consent hearings, with Environment Southland only having two. Other councils have some but they are not as experienced in regional matters and we do not seem to have iwi representatives available to sit on hearings in to Southland regional issues. What actions can we take to encourage Southland people particularly iwi, to become qualified as RMA hearing commissioners?

Mr Halligan provided a written response directly to Cr Cook prior to the meeting and provided a brief verbal response which included information regarding Iwi Commissioners, Making Good Decisions training and utilising qualified local Commissioners as much as possible.

- (2) Revised fees and charges for Environment Southland activities have been released for public consultation. What communication avenues have been used to announce those planned changes? Mr Halligan provided details of the multiple communication avenues that had been utilised for this consultation process, and which had also been outlined at recent workshops.

8 Chairman and Councillors' Reports | Nga Purongo-a-Tumuaki me nga Kaunihera

Neither the Chairman nor any Councillors presented reports.

9 General Manager, Integrated Catchment Management Report – 23/RC/08**⇒ Item 1 – Biosecurity Regulatory Report – 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023**

The purpose of this report was to inform Council of the regulatory activities within the Biosecurity Division during the reporting period from 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023. Discussions occurred relating to bait stations/bins in Milford Sound and Bluff, organism incursion in the North Island and possible impacts to the South Island, as well as promotion of the Antenno tool.

Ms McLachlan advised two corrections on Page 9 in relation to the Biosecurity Divisional Exemption activities whereby the total current exemptions for the quarter January to March 2023:

- for Bengal Cat is 23, and no new exemptions for the quarter;
- for Undaria is 2 instead 4 as reported.

Resolved:

Moved Chairman Horrell, seconded Cr McDonald that Council note the Biosecurity Regulatory Report for the period January to March and instruct staff to:

- 1) raise the topic of future organism incursions occurring in the North Island that could impact the South Island at the next BioManagers Forum and provide response to Councillors;**
- 2) investigate user feedback on Antenno including follow-up of Cr Ludlow's submission.**

Carried

⇒ Item 2 – Consents Team Activity and Performance - 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023

The purpose of this report was to inform Council of the activities within the Consents Division during the reporting period from 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023. Discussions occurred relating to groundwater nitrate levels, intensive winter grazing and Mataura consent holders.

Resolved:

Moved Chairman Horrell, seconded Cr MacDonald that Council note the Consents Division report for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023.

Carried

⇒ **Item 3 – Environmental Compliance Division Report – 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023**

The Committee received an update of the activities within the Compliance Division during the reporting period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023. Discussions occurred relating to proactive monitoring for Intensive Winter Grazing and synthetic nitrogen reporting.

Resolved:

Moved Chairman Horrell, seconded Cr McDonald that Council note the Compliance Division report for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2023.

Carried

⇒ **Item 4 – Integrated Catchment Management Group Work Plan**

Mr Hulse spoke to this report, which discussed details relating to the Integrated Catchment Management Group Work Plan. Discussion focused on the harbourmaster's presence in Fiordland.

Resolved:

Moved Chairman Horrell, seconded Cr McDonald, that Council note the Integrated Catchment Management Group Work Plan.

Carried

10 Extraordinary and Urgent Business

There were no items of extraordinary or urgent business considered by the meeting.

12 Public Excluded Business

There was no public excluded business considered by the meeting.

Termination

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.51 pm.