

## **HAWKE'S BAY FISH & GAME COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HAWKE'S BAY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL HELD AT THE GAME FARM ON TUESDAY 06 JUNE 2023 at 6.00 PM**

#### **PRESENT:**

Messrs: Bates, (Chair), Lumsden, Duley, MacKay, Callum Slavin, Blair Slavin, Melville, Niblett, Williams, and Bowcock.

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Chris Newton (Interim Manager). Sam Robinson Governance Advisor

#### **APOLOGIES**

None

#### **WELCOME**

Cr. Bates welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

*That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2023 were a true and correct record of the meeting*

***Bowcock/McKay***

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

The conflict-of-interest register was signed by all Councillors present.

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT**

*That the Health and Safety Report be accepted by Council*

***Bowcock/B. Slavin***

#### **MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The Management Report was taken as read and there were no queries arising.

#### **FINANCE REPORT**

That the payments for April and May 2023 totalling \$29,088.26 be approved.

April \$29,088.26

May \$7,795.70

Total \$36,883.96

*Williams/Mackay*

It was noted that included in the \$29K April payment was a payment of \$26k to NZC.

### **NZC CEO REPORT**

It was noted in the report that the TOR for the Finance Working Group and the Future Structure Working Group had not yet been finalised.

It was noted in the report that the Organisation Strategy will be circulated to regions however it was also noted that this had not yet happened in Hawkes Bay.

### **LICENCE FEE RECOMMENDATION**

The Hawkes Bay Council did reluctantly agree to this proposal though they noted that each Council, including the NZC need to strive to rapidly achieve improvements in productivity and a reduction in costs to deliver much improved real value to Licence Holders.

The Hawkes Bay Council also noted that the continuing downward trend in Licence Sales Revenue was not a healthy one.

*C.Slavin/ Lumsden*

### **RESIDENT/NON-RESIDENT DEFINITION**

The Council agreed with the recommendation to amending this definition to line up with the immigration Act and Doc Taupo.

*Williams/MacKay*

### **RESERVES POLICY**

Following some discussion, the Council decided that the policy should be set at a level of 50% of reserves.

*Melville/Lumsden*

### **NATIONAL REMUNERATION POLICY**

It was noted that the policy was a good and straight forward policy that had been well prepared.

However, it was noted that without the numbers it was a bit meaningless and more detail on this was required.

The Council did accept the policy though with one abstention.

*Melville/Niblett*

### **SPORTS FISHING REGULATIONS**

A draft of the above for the 2023/24 season was discussed.

It was noted that this included allowing bait fishing in some waterways which had not been allowed previously.

It was also noted that this was to encourage younger anglers into the sport.

There was also some discussion regarding the proposed bag limits and Council agreed that this should be set as one fish per day.

It was agreed that these draft regulations should be circulated to Anglers Clubs and other interested parties for consultation and be presented back to the next Council meeting for decisions to be made.

### **FACILITY DEVELOPMENT**

It was agreed that a subcommittee be appointed to assist management with the development and funding of the facility to include toilet, cooking and showering facilities.

This will include Councillors MacKay, Melville, and Bates.

### **2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET**

There was some concern expressed by Council that the budget needs to cater for increased staff costs and that we should not cut the budget too far.

Management was asked to reconsider the budget because of this and then resubmit the budget to Council.

It was noted that the current budget for the new Financial year was sitting at \$270,909 which compares to the current year's budget of \$380,642

### **PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

It was moved that the meeting go into a public excluded session.

#### ***Lumsden/Niblett***

The matter discussed was the proposed remuneration levels for NZ based Fish and Game staff.

Whilst there was no detail provided via hard copy, one Councillor was in receipt of the detail.

As this info was shared with Council there was a general concern expressed about the high levels proposed for several staff.

Several Councillors expressed concern that these levels were more than what some of them were paying their own staff.

Management was asked to obtain a copy of the recommendations and then circulate these to Council.

It was noted that more detail should be forthcoming.

The meeting then moved back into Public Allowed Session and there being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.47 pm.