

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 14 June 2017

At the DoC Offices, 31 Nga Mahi Road, Sockburn

Commencing at 6.30 pm

1. Present:

Councillors: Trevor Isitt (Chair), Ron Stuart, Phillip Musson, John Cumberpatch, Charles Smith, Peter Robinson, Bruce Kelly

Staff: Rod Cullinane, Debbie Ambler, Dirk Barr, Tony Hawker, Scott Pearson

Public: Paul Hodgson

2. Apologies:

Councillors: Malcolm Gilbert, Denis Kelliher, Craig Maylam

Staff: Emily Arthur-Moore, Steve Terry

"That the apologies be accepted."

Moved: Cr Smith

Seconded: Cr Stuart

CARRIED

3. Notification of General Business

Nil.

4a. Minutes from Previous Meeting:

"That the minutes from 19 April 2017 be accepted".

Moved: Cr Stuart

Seconded: Cr Smith

CARRIED

4b. Matters Arising

Items discussed from 15th February 2017 meeting:

- a. ECAN / NC F&G Councillor Meeting confirmed for 24 August 2017 at 4.00pm.

Items discussed from 19th April 2017 meeting:

- b. Public meetings to be held around North and South Rakaia Huts to be held in conjunction with ova planting.
- c. ECAN and DoC policies on protection of rivers/streams and their references be put on the national web site – R Cosgrove
- d. Building Opening – The Prime Minister indicated to R Cullinane that he would like to attend, but subject to his schedule leading up to the election. An opening date is yet to be confirmed, although move-in date will not be held up.
- e. ECAN Long Term Plan – R Cullinane reported that the final ratification of the Plan would be made at the end of June, with NC F&G's two submissions (additional compliance staff and recreational/amenity

scoping study) being approved. S Pearson and Emily Arthur-Moore were thanked for their work on the NC F&G submissions.

5. Health and Safety Update

A brief report was presented. More detail was required for future reports.

6. Public Session

Fish Screens – P Hodgson – To be discussed in Staff Report.

7. Meeting Business

7a i Licence Fee Recommendation

Points raised in discussion:

- With the current state of NC fishery, not appropriate to have an increase;
- Increase assist with supporting the national legal fund;
- Licence cost already seen to be too expensive;
- To publicise the fact the increase goes towards legal aspects to protect habitat;
- Stakeholders need to see that F&G is using the licence fee wisely;

“That NC F&G support the 2017/2018 licence fee recommendation to increase the Adult Whole Season Licence by \$2.00 and the Adult Gamebird Licence by \$1.00”.

Moved: Cr Cumberpatch

Seconded: Cr Smith

CARRIED

D Ambler to email R Sowman of outcome.

7a ii 2017/18 Fishing Regulations

a. Bait Fishing –

General feeling was the submissions were to stop kahawai fishing not for fresh water fishing.

Decision was to keep status quo.

b. Size Limit for Salmon and Trout –

Discussion on size limit of breeding stock for sea run trout, the need to have a size limit for small fish and to have more trophy fish to catch. That bag limits be on the agenda for the Salmon Symposium.

“That the minimum size of salmon and trout caught be 300ml in the lower reaches of all rivers except, for land locked salmon at Lake Coleridge”

Moved: Cr Robinson

Seconded: Cr Stuart

CARRIED

T Hawker and D Barr to look at Lake Coleridge data before applying this rule to Lake Coleridge.

c. Closure of Rivers –

Discussion on river closures ensued with points being raised for consideration;

- o Salmon, Brown and Rainbow trout all have different spawning times over the winter months;
- o Need to think about the data being used going forward when decisions to close rivers are made;
- o Stagger closure dates per fish species;

sponsorship for the Wildlife Habitat Trust and that he would be meeting with the Chairman of ECAN on how to further the ECAN / NCF&G relationship.

8b Staff Report

1141 Hatcheries – D Barr reported that ova planting was underway, that a Bully Creek release would occur on the 9 July followed by a general stakeholders meeting. Invitations had been sent to locals for the Whiskey Creek release on the 2 July 2017.

State of the Rivers in the Selwyn District – S Pearson stated there was a meeting being held on the state of the rivers in the Selwyn District and sort financial support to bring speakers to this. He hoped the meeting would deliver solutions to the problems in the district. General discussion agreed the need to contact Dairy NZ to garner support from farmers. S Pearson, R Cullinane and Cr Musson to discuss with J Sunkell. S Pearson to arrange.

That \$1,000.00 be donated in support of flights for guest speakers at a meeting to held on the state of the rivers in the Selwyn District.

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Kelly

CARRIED

Fish Screens – T Hawker gave an overview of his meeting with Central Plains Water relating to the effectiveness of their fish screens and the health of the fish which had got through these.

T Hawker to send R Cullinane the CPW Consent

Styx Living Laboratory Group

Cr Stewart reported he had been co-opted to this Committee and gave an overview of their work. He suggested that F&G consider a presence at the Styx event later in the year.

8d NZC Report

Cr Cumberpatch gave an overview of the recent NZC meeting. He stated that a Governors' Forum was being considered for November 2018.

8e Fresh Waters Programme

R Cullinane reported the first meeting of the newly appointed Trustees to the Wildlife and Habitat Trust had occurred. R Ballantyne was appointed Patron to the Trust as well as a Trustee.

8f Building Report

R Cullinane reported the kerbing would be going in shortly. Cr Stuart to organise a group of volunteers to assist in landscaping around the building. Handover tentatively week ending 30th June, with a move in date approximately end of July 17.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.05.pm.

Chairman: _____ Date: _____