

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 2 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 6pm

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Sam Robinson (Governance Advisor), Jesse Friedlander (Manager), Tipene Cottrell (iwi liaison advisor), Dave Hern, Richard Riddell, Andy Newman, Bob Spain, David Stoney, Steve Perfect.

APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

That the minutes of the August and September meetings are a true and accurate record.

Williams/Lumsden

Council discussed the quotes received for videoconferencing units.

That Council approves the expenditure of \$4110 for a video conferencing system.

Mackay/Williams

CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

Sam Robinson declared a conflict as new councillors may not be aware that he is a member of a Tukituki water security governance group.

Cr. Niblett declared a conflict as a director of NZ Gamebirds and a director of Flying Pheasant Ltd.

Cr. Bates declared a conflict as a pheasant preserve is run by his family on Ngamatea Station.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

That Council accepts the health and safety report

Lumsden/Mackay

Tipene Cottrell provided an introduction to himself and the work that he and Jesse have begun over the last 6 months. Tipene has a lot of knowledge, and we need to make use of it throughout this time of change in the organisation.

FAREWELL TO DEPARTING COUNCILLORS

Council farewelled Dave Hern and thanked him for his service to the council and licenceholders of Hawke's Bay.

ELECTION OF NEW ZEALAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL APPOINTEE AND REGIONAL CHAIRMAN

The Manager called for nominations for the Chair's position. Cr. Niblett nominated Cr. Bates as Chair.

That Cr. Bates is elected as Chair of the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council.

Niblett/Lumsden

Nominations were called for a regional appointee to the NZC. Cr. Niblett nominated Cr. Duley.

That Cr. Duley is elected as the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council appointee to the NZ Fish and Game Council.

Niblett/Mackay

Councillors discussed the need for the NZC appointee to keep them informed during this time of change for Fish and Game.

2022 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

Cr. Bates and Cr. Niblett again declared their conflicts of interest.

That Cr. Bates and Cr. Niblett are to remain in the room for this agenda item to take part in the discussions but are not authorised to vote.

Lumsden/Mackay

Sam Robinson suggested that another councillor should chair this part of the meeting. This was agreed by all. Cr. Duley will Chair this agenda item and the item related to the policy on pheasant preserves.

That the season for shoveler duck is extended to an 8 week duration for the 2022 season.

Lumsden/Mackay

Shooting hours were discussed. It is still daylight at 6pm at the start of the season, however it is dark at 6pm by June and so it was decided to leave the shooting hours as they are currently.

The 2nd schedule needs to be added to the draft game season conditions relating to conditions for upland game properties with special conditions.

Cr. Lumsden questioned whether there should be an extended season on upland game properties to allow for junior shoots. This was allowed for previously in the Hawke's Bay regulations and so staff will add in the previous season conditions (2nd schedule on upland game properties with special conditions) to the draft game season regulations.

POLICY ON UPLAND GAME AREAS WITH SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Cr. Williams requested that new councillors be provided with the history of decisions made on upland game preserves by Fish and Game before being asked to make a decision on this policy.

Cr. Duley provided an explanation on the decisions made over the last two years on upland game preserves by the NZC. Most recently, NZC voted not to oppose commercial upland game preserves.

The Manager suggested that council could consider changing the restriction on hunting ducks on upland game preserve properties. The policy could be amended by allowing duck hunting but not on pheasant shoot days. Staff are currently using this document as a guideline when assessing prospective non-commercial upland game preserves. It would be helpful to have this ratified as policy.

Discussion centred around driven duck shooting and the difficulty of defining what is/isn't included in the definition of driven duck hunting. Cr. Williams is against allowing any duck hunting on upland game properties with special conditions.

Some preserve owners may have issues with paradise ducks on crops. The properties are also large and sometimes hold many dams that are shot by property owners and shepherds.

Section 1.4 could be amended to read "...on pheasant shoot days." To prevent waterfowl hunting only on shoot days.

Discussion centred around concern over the distinction between commercial and non-commercial (syndicate model) preserves.

Cr. Melville put forward the resolution *That the document on upland game areas with special conditions is ratified as policy with the above amendment.*

Melville/Lumsden

This was voted on. 5 in favour, 2 against. Motion carried.

INFORMATION FOR THE 2020-2021 DRAFT PERFORMANCE REPORT

That Council receives the draft reports comprising the Statement of Service Performance, Chairman's reports and draft Financial Statements for the 2020-2021 year, and identifies any changes required before finalising the Performance Report for the 2020-2021 year.

Lumsden/Slavin(Blair)

DECISION ON WAGE SUBSIDY RECEIVED DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS DURING THE 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR.

That Council ratifies its decision made via video conference link on the 22nd September 2021 to repay in full the \$28,118.40 wage subsidy received during the 2019/2020 financial year, effective as at 31 August 2021.

Williams/Niblett

LIASON OFFICERS REPORT

Cr. Duley informed council that there had been no NZC meeting since his last update. At this point, the Regional F&GC Structure Review Team is looking for ideas and council should take this opportunity to put our ideas forward.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

Cr. Williams asked whether we could undertake monitoring in the Maraetotara River. Staff will fit this into their monitoring schedule and report on results to council.

FINANCE REPORT

Discussion on the beach raking report commissioned by council. This will be presented after the 2021/22 summer.

Cr. Williams questioned what the expenditure on lawyers fees was for. This is the fee we were charged for prosecutions. The payment to Jamieson Earthworks was for the limestone pathway around the new pond area.

That the payments for July and August 2021 totalling \$96,544.65 be approved.

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| <i>July 2021</i> | <i>\$29,906.29</i> |
| <i>August 2021</i> | <i>\$66,638.36</i> |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>\$96,544.65</i> |

That the Finance Report be accepted for the 2 months ended 31 August 2021.
Duley/Mackay

LICENCE REPORT

Discussion on the impact of no overseas licences sold due to covid-19/locked borders. Does the benefit of selling overseas licences outweigh the negatives (i.e effects on pressure sensitive fisheries etc). Does there need to be a greater price difference between resident/non-resident licences or some other form of restriction? Cr. Williams will write a paper on this topic for discussion at a future council meeting.

Council accepts the licence report
Mackay/Bowcock

David Stoney (President, Napier Freshwater Anglers Club) congratulated council on the Game Farm educational wetland and requested that the NFAC puts a library of angling books in the F&G meeting room. Councillors agreed with this proposal. This will be a great resource.

PUBLIC EXCLUDED

That the public are excluded from the following parts of this meeting.
Niblett/Williams **8:20pm**

That the public meeting resumes.
Niblett/Bowcock **8:45pm**

Meeting Closes.



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Bruce Bates – Chairman

7/12/2021
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Date