**FISH & GAME NZ – WEST COAST REGION**

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15th April 2015**

**AT REVINGTONS HOTEL AT 7PM**

Meeting commenced at 7.00pm with a welcome to members.

**PRESENT:** Jan Derks, Rob Roney, Dean Phibbs, Mark Smith, Andy Harris (Chairman), Jean Willis, Dave Heine

*In attendance:* Dean Kelly (Manager), Rhys Adams (Officer), Kim McPherson (Administration Officer), Trevor Johnson (DOC), Sean Climo (Ngai Tahu), Terry Parkinson.

Mr Kelly informed the Council of Leanne Johnsons departure and introduced Kim McPherson the new Office Administrator.

**APOLOGIES:**

Bruce Erickson was not able to make the meeting as he was overseas.

*Resolved: (J Derks/D Heine), carried.*

***That the apologies be received.***

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER:** No conflicts of interest were noted.

**MINUTES:**

Resolved: (R Roney/J Derks), carried

**That the Minutes of the August 2013 meeting, as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.**

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

Mark Smith requested that more detail was required to distinguish himself from Owen Smith in the minutes. Mr Kelly committed to using both given and surnames in the record.

Mr Kelly was asked to provide an update of the Grey District Council proposal to stop Heaphy Road. Mr Johnson provided an overview of the DoC MoU with the Christian Community and stated that the department would like to hear about any issues with the road. Mr Johnson stated that there had been a couple of access issues regarding the road this year with one involving the police being called.

Mr Derks enquired about the Health and Safety correspondence with the NZC. Mr Harris read out a letter received that day regarding the issue. Mr Willis provided an update from the NZC regarding H&S.

# CORRESPONDENCE: (as per pre-circulated schedule)

Dave Heine enquired about the resource consent application on the Buller River. Mr Adams provided a response noting that Fish and Game have submitted opposing the application.

Mr Roney enquired about the Neil Hayes correspondence and Mr Kelly committed to circulating it to all councillors via email.

*Resolved: (J Derks/ D Phibbs), carried*

***That the inwards correspondence be received.***

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr Kelly informed the council of the need to separate out a portion of the Non-resident licence income for allocation to a dedicated reserve at years end.

*Resolved: (R Roney /J Derks), carried.*

**That the Financial Report be received**

# MANAGERS REPORT

Mr Kelly presented the pre-circulated bimonthly operational report and thanked Mr Derks and Mr Harris for their participation in the junior hunting program.

Mr Heine enquired about the electric fishing exercise on the Mawheraiti River. Mr Kelly informed the council that the goal was to obtain a long term dataset but that good numbers of juvenile trout were observed.

Mr Adams presented a report on the Drift Dive program.

*Resolved: (J Derks /D Phibbs), carried.*

**That the Drift Dive report be received and recommendations adopted.**

Mr Adams presented a report on the Lake Netting program. Mr Phibbs noted that it would be useful to have the enhancement policy and the report recommendation align. Mr Kelly committed to rewording the policy.

*Resolved: (D Phibbs /J Derks), carried.*

**That the Lake Netting report be received and recommendations adopted.**

Mr Adams presented a report on the Paradise Moult Counts.

*Resolved: (D Phibbs /J Derks), carried.*

**That the Paradise Moult Count report be received and recommendations adopted.**

Mr Adams presented a report on the Game Harvest Survey.

*Resolved: (D Phibbs /J Derks), carried.*

**That the Game Harvest Survey report be received and recommendations adopted.**

Mr Willis enquired about Paradise Shelduck complaint. Mr Kelly advised the council that the policy was used and a local hunter was issued a permit to hunt the birds which were grazing on a crop at Birchfield.

Resolved: (J Derks/R Roney), carried

**That the Managers Operational Report be received.**

**NZ COUNCIL**

Mr Willis provided and update from the latest NZ Council meeting.

*Resolved: (J Willis/D Heine), carried*

**That the NZ Council Report be received.**

# GENERAL BUSINESS

**2015/16 Draft Budget**

The council reviewed the draft budget to be submitted the regional managers meeting. No changes were requested.

*Resolved: (D Phibbs/J Derks), carried*

**That the draft 2015/16 budget be approved.**

**Sportsfishery Enhancement Policy**

The council reviewed an updated sportsfishery enhancement matrix and policy. Some changes were noted to the policy as a result of the review with Mark smith and Mr Kelly to provide an updated policy for adoption at the June meeting.

**1080 and Waterways.**

Following the recent death of a licence holder’s dog in the Taramakau River, the West Coast Fish and Game Council has resolved to write to the Animal Health Board expressing their concerns about the use of 1080 in riverbeds. The dog had consumed 1080 just a few meters from the water’s edge.

1. The change of policy to lay 1080 directly in, or in very close proximity to, riverbeds presents an increased and very real risk to licence holders, their families and pets.

2. The West Coast Fish and Game Council believes that the laying of 1080 on the ground, either by hand or aerially, in these situations should be discontinued and alternatives used.

3. The West Coast Fish and Game Council is concerned that appropriate signage is not present in all entry points to waterways and demands that the Animal Health Board improve its performance in this regard. It is also noted that out of date signage is often encountered and is concerned that this diminishes the usefulness of all signage.

*Resolved: (R Roney/D Heine), carried*

**That the West Coast Fish and Game Council write to Ospri regarding 1080 application and the effect on anglers and hunters.**

At 9.40 pm:

*Resolved: (D Heine/R Roney), carried*

**That the Council move into public excluded session to protect privacy of an individual.**

At 9.45pm;

*Resolved: (D Heine/R Roney), carried*

**That the Council re-open the meeting to include the public.**

*Resolved: (R Roney/J Willis), carried*

**That Council ratify the outcome of publicly excluded session discussion.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.46pm.

Chairman……………………………………… Date…………………….