

One hundred and fifty second meeting of the  
**New Zealand Fish and Game Council**  
19th June 2021  
Fish and Game Offices

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**PRESENT**

**NZ Councillors:**

Ray Grubb (Chair), Debbie Oakley, Noel Birchall, Andy Harris, Dan Isbister, Nigel Juby (via Zoom), Bill O'Leary, Dave Harris, Richard McIntyre, Dave Coll, Gerard Karalus, Greg Duley.

**NZC Staff:**

Paul Shortis, Acting Chief Executive, Carmel Veitch Finance, Jack Kós Policy Advisor.

**Guests:**

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**1. Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction**

Meeting

**2. Apologies received**

Cr. Juby apologised for late attendance.

**3. Conflicts of Interest**

- Dave Coll declared conflict re NC paper and has chosen not to speak to it unless requested and will abstain from voting.

**Extraordinary Business**

1. That Council add 6 papers to the agenda per the extraordinary business clause in standing orders, as these papers arose subsequent to the preparation of the paper and are urgent.
2. The papers were:
  - a. Commercial Game Preserves (under Public Excluded)
  - b. Exceptional Funding Application – NC (under Public Excluded)
  - c. Salmon Report (under Public Excluded)
  - d. Action List (previously omitted by error)
  - e. ARF Report
  - f. Advocacy Positions (under Public Excluded)

**Moved: Crs. Grubb/O'Leary**

**Motion Passed.**

**4. Approve minutes for meeting 150**

1. That the minutes for meeting 150 be approved.

**Moved: Crs. McIntyre/D. Harris**

Confirm D. Coll did second the motion on licence fee. Delete Q mark.

**Motion Passed.**

**5. Approve minutes for meeting 151**

1. That the minutes for meeting 151 be approved.

**Moved: Cr. McIntyre/D. Harris**

**Motion passed.**

**6. Licence Fee Recommendation**

- Cr. Oakley clarified the basis for Eastern's view and that the decision was extremely close.

1. *That the licence fee recommendations be accepted at \$137 fish and \$100 game, with the corresponding ratios and categories.*

**Moved: Crs. Isbister/Coll**

- Discussion on the child licence fee. Range of perspectives offered, but view is that it would create the wrong perception to charge for child licences.
- Noted wider need for licence category review, but that this is not the meeting to discuss this.
- Noted that LWP currently working on this, and this will attempted to be brought forward to the November meeting.
- Opportunity for free landowner licence too – to be referred to LWP. Noted this needs to retain the opportunity to vote.

1. *That the licence fee recommendations be accepted at \$137 fish and \$100 game, with the corresponding ratios and categories.*

**Moved: Crs. Isbister/Coll**

**Motion Passed.**

**7. Draft Policy – Change Freeze**

1. *That the Change Freeze consultation document be approved as draft national policy.*

**Moved: Crs, Grubb/O'Leary**

- Chair stated this is a commonsense approach to changing circumstances
- CE noted that there was some feedback already and that there is broad support for the intent of the policy but some questions around the process.
- Confirmed this was just approving as draft policy and not actual policy.

**Motion Passed.**

**8. Change Meeting Dates**

- Some concern expressed re difficulty getting people to Wellington in December.
- Clarified that move to start of December was an election process issue around timing in the regions.
- Suggested that there is a need to have an August face to face meeting.
- Confirmed this will have budget ramifications – it can be covered, but will have impact.

1. *That NZC change the scheduled November meeting to Friday 3rd December & Saturday 4th December 2021 in Wellington.*

**Moved: Crs. D. Harris/G. Karalus**

**Motion Passed**

NOTE: Because the August meeting was originally scheduled to be a face to face meeting there was no need to formally resolve to meet face to face in August. There will be an NZC meeting in Wellington on 27/28 August.

## 9. Public Excluded Motion

*That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:  
pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

<b>GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED</b>	<b>REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER</b>	<b>GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION</b>
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 150	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
	Section 9(2)(h) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.	
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 151	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to protect	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of

	the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials	the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
New Licence System Update	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
North Canterbury Loan	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

Commercial Game Preserves	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
Salmon Report	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
Advocacy Positions	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carryout, without prejudiceor disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

*(b) And that staff remain to provide advice to the Council on all items.*

**Moved: Crs. Oakley/McIntyre  
Motion Passed**

#### **14. Chair's Report**

- Chair spoke to report.
- Discussion on role that Fish and Game plays in catchment groups. Suggests we should not facilitate but should be involved. Very important for community engagement, along with environmental benefits. Suggested this could be elevated as a higher

priority for Fish and Game and that there should be attendance from F&G at all catchment groups.

- Chair to circulate letter on this.
- Debate around appropriateness of Govt funding for F&G attendance/involvement in catchment groups. Support for seeking this in very specific circumstances.

- 1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Cr. Duley/Karalus**  
**Motion Passed**

**Meeting broke at 12:25 for lunch.**

**Meeting resumed at 1pm**

## **15. CEO Report**

1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Crs. Grubb/Duley**

**Motion Passed**

- Brief conversation around RMA hiring and administration staff.

## **15a. Action List**

**ACTION:** Correspondence Register to be sent to NZC more regularly. Via SharePoint? Need to see about access permissions etc.

## **16. Website Update**

- Queried what process was to form reference groups?
- Confirmed it is composed of individuals that would add value and that it is circulated.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Crs. A. Harris/Juby**

**Motion Passed**

## **17. NZC Finance Report**

- Dealt with straight after lunch to deal as CV has early flight.
- CV spoke to paper and outlined areas that may end up over budget, in particular governance and salaries.
- Confirmed that review travel costs etc are being passed on to DOC.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Crs. Oakley/D. Harris**

**Motion passed.**

## **17a. ARF Report**

- Notes section of table explained.
- CV spoke to major variation in regional ARF levels.
- Chair: Need to get all ARF budgets standardised.
- Cr.: Reminder that we passed resolution looking into ARF.
- Chair: This was first step, and next is to pass resolution to enable CV to look into ARF budgets and appropriateness.

1. *That NZC undertake a national internal audit of ARF budgets.*

**Moved: Crs. Birchall/Isbister**

**Motion Passed.**

- How do new rules on utes change things for us?

## **18. National Finance Report**

- CV confirmed that there are no regions that are markedly over or under budget YTD.
- CV to update table for August showing actual licence revenue.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Crs. Isbister/Birchall**

**Motion Passed**

## **19. RMA/Legal Update**

- Nothing to report.
- Chair and CE updated NZC on RMA coordination and upcoming RMA position.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Crs. A. Harris/O'Leary**

**Motion Passed**

## **20. Research Update**

- Few comments around allocation in last budget round. NZC scheduled \$30k to reinstate the research fund back to \$100k, plus \$30k ongoing to NAS. The current funding for the NAS is short for this survey.

1. *That the uncommitted funds of \$89,733 be transferred to the NAS – in order to cover the current project.*

2. *That the NAS research be set up as a dedicated reserve.*

3. *That the report be received.*

**Moved: Crs. Grubb/Birchall**

**Motion Passed.**

**ACTION: Carmel to remove total of unspent/unallocated.**

## **21. Licence Sale Update**

1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Crs. Isbister/Karalus**

**Motion Passed**

## 22. Consultation Register

- **ACTION: Jack to send Consultation Register to NZC**

1. *That this report be accepted.*

**Moved: Crs.**

**Motion Passed**

## 23a. Advocacy Positions – DIN & DRP

- Chair spoke to paper and suggested the paper from Adam Canning, Mike Joy and Russell Death be endorsed to be sent out to regions for consultation to be adopted as an advocacy position.

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- *1. That this paper be sent out to regions for consultation to be adopted as an advocacy position.*

**Moved: Crs. Grubb/D. Harris**

- View that the authors may be controversially seen in the agriculture sphere.
- F&G need to have some bottom-line positions, because many other organisations will have them.

**Motion Passed.**

Thanks formally given to CE, Paul Shortis, for the role he has played over the past 6 months, the support he has given to the Chair and his guidance to NZC.

Meeting closed 1:45pm Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>.