

## **AUCKLAND/WAIKATO FISH & GAME**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of Council** **held at the NZ Deerstalkers Hall, Wairere Dr, Hamilton,** **on Saturday 17 November 2018 commencing at 11.30am.**

#### **PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** M. Young

**Councillors:** G. Annan, G. Avery, D. Cocks, N. Juby, B. Moore, C. Sherrard, S. Smith,  
E. Williamson.

**Staff:** B. Wilson, J. Dyer, A. Sintenie, A. Daniel.

**Visitors:** P. Hardy, J. Atkinson

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

A. Kerr, W. Howard, P. Shaw, D. Tyson, M. Davis, D. Klee

It was moved;

**that the apologies be accepted.**

**Young/Sherrard CARRIED**

#### **2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN:**

Mr Wilson assumed the Chair and called for nominations for the position of Chairman.

Councillor Young was nominated by Councillor Annan and seconded by Councillor Cocks.

Mr Wilson then asked if there were any further nominations. There being none he declared Councillor Young Chairman and vacated the Chair.

#### **3. GENERAL EXPLANATION OF VARIOUS LAWS AFFECTING COUNCILLORS:**

In accordance with Standing Orders Mr Wilson briefed the Councillors on the relevant sections of:

- Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 – regarding the corrupt use of official information and bribery of officials.
- Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 – regarding the access of the public to official information.
- Secret Commission Act 1910 – Councillors acting for the Council cannot take secret commissions or issue false invoices.

**4. APPOINTMENT OF TWO VICE CHAIRMEN:**

The Chairman called for nominations for the two Vice Chairmen.

Councillor Cocks was nominated by Councillor Annan and seconded by Councillor Williamson.

Councillor Annan was nominated by Councillor Williamson and seconded by Councillor Cocks.

The Chairman asked if there were any further nominations, there being none Councillors Annan and Cocks were declared Vice Chairmen.

**5. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL'S NOMINEE FOR NZF&G COUNCIL:**

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Auckland/Waikato representative on the NZF&G Council.

Councillor Juby was nominated by Councillor Williamson and seconded by Councillor Smith.

Councillor Sherrard was nominated by Councillor Annan and seconded by Councillor Cocks.

It was agreed that staff would act as scrutineers.

A secret ballot was held, and the Chairman declared Councillor Juby as Auckland/Waikato representative to the NZF&GC.

It was moved;

**that the voting papers be destroyed.**

**Williamson/Cocks CARRIED**

**6. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ON LAND & WATER HABITAT TRUST:**

The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Council's representative on the Land and Water Habitat Trust.

Councillor Kerr was nominated by Councillor Sherrard and seconded by Councillor Annan.

The Chairman asked if there were any further nominations. There being none he declared Councillor Kerr as Council's representative on the Land and Water Habitat Trust.

**7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

None

**8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2018:**

It was moved;

***that the Minutes of the previous meeting of 13 October 2018 be accepted as a true and correct record.***

***Cocks/Williamson CARRIED***

**9. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

Councillor Moore expressed his disappointment at the ongoing comments by the NZ Council publicity staff on social media regarding dairy farming. Councillor Moore's concerns were strongly supported by Councillor Smith who considered it was causing much damage to Fish and Game's reputation in the rural community.

Mr Daniel left the meeting at 12.20pm.

General discussion ensued on the environmental impacts of dairy farming and the Healthy Rivers RMA process in the Waikato catchment. It was acknowledged that the Healthy Rivers Plan Changes was a long process taking considerable staff resources.

The meeting rose for lunch at 12.30pm and resumed at 1.30pm.

Councillor Smith enquired as to whether the funds from the Te Kauwhata F&G Club had been received. Mr Wilson replied that he had nothing further to report, but once the funds were received they would be placed into a dedicated fund after discussions with the club.

**10. COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:**

A letter was tabled from "Kiwi Anglers", a group set up to advocate for "kiwi angling heritage and traditions".

It was moved;

***that correspondence be received.***

***Cocks/Sherrard CARRIED***

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVES BI MONTHLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:**

Discussion took place on whether joint operations between F&G rangers and the NZ Police had been worthwhile. Mr Wilson stated that there had been joint operations in the

past with mixed results, but that the police were rarely available to assist unless given considerable forward notice.

Councillor Williamson enquired why staff had asked hunters whether they would support an extension to the dabbling duck season as surely the answer was obvious. Mr Dyer replied that the replies were informative in that hunters were generally only supportive of an increase in season length if bird numbers were high and increasing. Hunters appeared to be much more aware than in previous surveys of the relationship between season length and the dabbling duck population

Ms Sintenie provided an update on the Healthy Rivers Plan Change. She informed that a meeting would soon be held of the expert witnesses, all of whom were expected to give independent advice. The purpose of the meeting was to determine what evidence all parties agreed to and where the areas of disagreement lay.

Councillor Moore left the meeting at 1.50pm.

Ms Sintenie left the meeting at 1.55pm.

Mr Wilson updated Councillors on the Ward Ranch legal proceedings.

It was moved;

**that the Chief Executive's bi monthly report and financial statements be accepted.**  
**Smith/Cocks CARRIED**

## **12. GAME SEASON REMIT FROM WAIPA DISTRICT COUNCIL:**

A remit was tabled from the Waipa District Council that "gamebird hunting is restricted to current fixed stands on Lake Cameron and Mangakaware for the duration of the dabbling duck season".

The staff report was supportive of the remit as it was seen as a good mechanism to deal with ensuring public safety and reducing the potential for conflict with surrounding landowners. Mr Wilson emphasised that the remit needed to be considered immediately rather than postponed to 2019, when all gamebird regulations in the region would be under review.

It was moved;

**that gamebird hunting is restricted to current fixed stands on Lake Cameron and Mangakaware for the duration of the dabbling duck season.**  
**Cocks/Annan CARRIED**

## **13. 2019 MEETING SCHEDULE:**

The proposed 2019 Meeting Schedule was considered by Council.

It was moved;

**that the 2019 meeting schedule be set as follows:**

**16 February 2019**

**6 April 2019**

**15 June 2019**

**17 August 2019**

**12 October 2019**

**14 December 2019**

**Smith/Avery CARRIED**

#### **14. OSH REPORT:**

Mr Wilson stated that there had been no OSH incidents or staff meetings since the previous Council meeting.

#### **15. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

The NZ Council had advised that the pre-season magazines in 2019 will be produced by a new publisher. The new arrangement has meant some cost savings and consequently there will be up to four pages available for each regional supplement at no cost to the regions. However, current Auckland/Waikato policy states that council staff can only contribute to a two-page supplement. Mr Wilson recommended that this policy be revoked or amended.

It was moved:

**that Standing Orders be suspended.**

**Sherrard/Smith CARRIED**

It was moved;

**that Council's policy on pre-season supplement be revoked.**

**Smith/Juby CARRIED**

It was moved;

**that Standing Orders be resumed.**

**Sherrard/Annan CARRIED**

Councillor Annan spoke on his concerns for the rainbow trout fishery in Lake Arapuni. In previous years rainbow trout had dominated angler catches contributing about 95% of the trout caught by anglers. But in the last two years, the composition of angler catches had rapidly changed, and browns were now the most common trout caught.

Councillor Williamson congratulated staff on taking a pre-emptive role regarding potential botulism outbreaks in waste water treatment plants. Mr Dyer replied that staff

had been actively advocating for waste water treatment plants to have and use botulism managements plans.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 2.55pm.

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