

CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Central South Island Fish and Game Council held in the Boardroom, 32 Richard Pearse Drive, Temuka, on Thursday 16 July 20 at 7:00 pm.

Present:

A Brooks	D Isbister
S Bannister	L Koevoet
S Gerard	C McKenzie
B Growcott	A Simpson (Chair)
M Hall	J Henry (Ngai Tahu)

In Attendance:

F&G Staff: J Graybill (Chief Executive), B Dolan (Office Administrator).

20-038 APOLOGIES:

C Fulton.

Resolved (Growcott/Koevoet)

20-038

THAT THE APOLOGY OF C FULTON BE ACCEPTED.

20-039 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

Chair queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register or any conflicts between their current interests and the business of tonight's meeting?

D Isbister advised there was a possibility that he may be put onto the Lower Waitaki River Liaison Group but that will not be confirmed until September 2020.

No other interests were notified.

20-040 HEALTH & SAFETY:

Office Administrator pointed out exit points of the building and reminded Councillors and public to make use of the hand sanitiser when entering or exiting the boardroom.

20-041 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 14 APRIL 2020 (EGM):

Resolved (Isbister/Growcott)

20-039

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14 APRIL 2020 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

20-042 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 21 MAY 2020 (ONLINE):

S Gerard wished to have the words "a staff report" added to Season Bag Limit for Sea-Run Salmon topic on page 804 of the minutes. The sentence would now read:

"He cited the Willis report, a staff report, and the salmon fishery being in crisis for his reasoning."

Resolved (Growcott/Isbister)

20-040

THAT WITH THE ABOVE ADDITION THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 21 MAY 2020 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

20-043 DOC LIAISON:

No representative from DoC attended the meeting.

20-044 ECAN LIAISON:

No representative from Environment Canterbury attended the meeting.

20-045 RECEIVE OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:

L Koevoet asked that J Couper be congratulated on his Waitaki River Trout report and his presentation of the information contained in it.

Resolved (McKenzie/Brooks)

20-041

THAT THE OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS OF 16 JULY 2020 BE RECEIVED.

M Hall felt that Council should receive the Operations and Staff Reports if they were provided and discussed during the Council meeting. It was important to do this to make the reports public.

20-046 BUDGET AND FINANCE:

046.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing (7.1)

Chief Executive gave Council an update on the CSI financial situation and noted that fish income is down \$79,000 and game income is down \$25,000 to the same point last year. This is on account of the Covid-19 situation.

Resolved (Isbister/Koevoet)

20-042

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND RATIFIES THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FOR MAY 2020 AND JUNE 2020 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$355,577.34, AND \$56,816.60, RESPECTIVELY.

046.2 Covid-19 Wage Subsidy (7.3)

Chief Executive reported that at the start of the Covid-19 lockdown the Government announced they were providing a wage subsidy for businesses who experienced a loss in income. It was believed that CSI Fish and Game met the criterion of the 30% threshold for this subsidy, so applied for and received \$49,207.20. Further assessment showed that CSI experienced more than 30% loss of income in given months. He noted that borders are still closed, which means CSI will continue to lose income over the next few and unforeseen number of months.

Resolved (Brooks/Bannister)

20-043

THAT COUNCIL AGREES THAT THE WAGE SUBSIDY WAS APPLIED FOR IN GOOD FAITH, THAT THE CRITERION OF 30% INCOME LOSS IN ANY ONE MONTH WAS MET AND AGREES THAT THE WAGE SUBSIDY BE RETAINED.

20-047 CHAIR'S REPORT:

047.1 CSI Finances (8.1)

Chair urged all Councillors to pay close attention to Council's financial statements with the changing environment with Covid-19.

047.2 Meeting with ECan (8.2)

Chair advised that the meeting between CSIFGC members, North Canterbury Fish and Game Council (NCFGC) members and ECan council members that initially was scheduled for 24 March has been re-scheduled for Friday 24th July. Chief Executive advised that he would follow-up with ECan on the status of the agenda and circulate this to Councillors once this has been received. He advised that there would be a CSI staff presentation on a future planning framework for the Rangitata River following the joint Governor-to-Governor section.

047.3 Season Bag Limit for Salmon (8.3)

Chair reported that the intention of NCFGC and CSIFGC to request a regulatory change to enable both regions to implement a season bag limit for salmon was announced to media and widely reported. This included the Minister confirming her support for the proposal at policy level. The Chief Executive updated Council that the Covid-19 workload currently faced by Cabinet has prevented Cabinet from considering the regulation for this coming season.

Council felt CSI should frame publicity around encouraging salmon fishermen to voluntarily adhere to only taking up to 4 salmon for the upcoming season. Disappointment was expressed at the delay of the season bag as Council had agreed to a 1 October season opening on the understanding that the season bag would be in place. Chief Executive agreed that staff would prepare and provide clarification to Council of the final form of the regulations without a season bag.

047.4 CSI Strategic Plan (8.4)

Discussion ensued on the draft strategic plan and the following suggestions were **AGREED** to be changed on the final draft of the CSI's Strategic Plan.

- *Priority Factors – that the positions of 1. Affordability and 2. Achievability be reversed so that Achievability is #1 and Affordability is #2. That “Feasibility” should be used in place of “Achievability”. That Feasibility should include “Is the proposed work within the reasonable control of CSIFGC?”*

Strategic Goal 6 – that 6.3 and 6.6 be put directly after 6.1.

Chair noted that it is clear there is more work to be done than Council can practically do with our resources so there would need to be prioritisation. Chief Executive reminded Council that he had colour coded the draft OWP highlighting which objectives Council are statutorily required to do. He advised that it was now his responsibility to revise the 2020/21 OWP, taking into account the approved Strategic Plan. This would be provided to Council at the September Council meeting for review and approval.

Resolved (Isbister/Growcott)

20-044

THAT COUNCIL ADOPTS THE GOALS, OUTCOMES AND PRIORITY FACTORS AS ITS STRATEGIC PLAN AND AUTHORISES THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO PUBLISH THE STRATEGIC PLAN TOGETHER WITH A FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR SUBJECT TO CHANGES PROPOSED AT THIS COUNCIL MEETING.

047.5 Extraordinary Vacancy (8.6)

AGREED that Council instructs the Chief Executive to act as specified in s24 of the *Fish and Game Council Election Regulations 1990*, in regard to Council's extraordinary vacancy.

047.6 CE Performance Appraisal (8.7)

Chair advised that Chief Executive's regular performance appraisal was completed on July 2nd, in accordance with clause 21 of Council's Governance Policy.

047.7 Ministerial Review (8.8)

Chair reported on the review of the Fish and Game organisation, which has been initiated by the Minister of Conservation. Consistent with representations by CSIFGC to the Minister, the review is expressly "independent", "objective", not managed by NZC, and directed to review NZC as well as the regional councils. The review team seek to meet with CSIFGC members on August 12 and 13th. He encouraged Councillors to participate and asked them to advise the office if they wished to be involved.

047.6 CE Performance Appraisal (8.7) (continued)

Resolved (Isbister/Growcott) at 8:34 pm

20-045

THAT COUNCIL MOVE INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF NATURAL PERSONS.

Meeting resumed in open forum at 8:40 pm.

20-048 NZFGC REPORT:

D Isbister gave a verbal update on issues that NZ Council have before them. He advised that the Licence Sub-Committee (of which J Graybill, I Hadland and P Teal were members) had undertaken a significant amount of work to get a finalised Agreement to regions for signature.

He advised that the first steps have been taken in the Financial Review and added that all regions have been asked to reduce their 2020/21 Budgets by 5%.

He further advised there was a new Executive Committee of the NZC and that he was a member of that committee.

20-049 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:

049.1 Risk Register (9.1)

This will be presented in the CE Report to Council bi-monthly to enable Councillors to continue to review.

049.2 Effect of Covid-19 on the 2020/21 Budget (9.2)

CE reported that with the projected decline in licence income of 15%, the NZ Council requested that regions review their 2020/21 budgets and reduce their expenditure by 5% with an additional 10% of budgeted expenditure to be taken from reserves.

To achieve a 5% reduction in expenditure the CE provided a re-cast 2020/21 budget. It contained reductions in expenditure that totalled approximately \$35,000 to achieve the 5% target. Council noted the importance of CSI continuing the salmon spawning surveys (\$12,500) as we currently have 19 years of data and with the salmon fishery in decline it was important to continue to gather that information. It was agreed this would be funded from CSI Reserves.

THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE RECAST 2020/21 BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$673,164 (represents a 3.2% reduction in expenditure) WITH \$82,044 (represents 11.8% of budgeted expenditure) TO BE TAKEN FROM CSI RESERVES.

049.3 Licence System and Business Administration Agreement

CE advised that the renewal of Eyede Agreement has been under active review and negotiation for some 18 months by the Licence Sub-Committee LS-C). This Agreement was now ready to be reviewed and adopted by the 13 Councils of Fish and Game, who are all signatory to the agreement. The CE recommends adoption of the agreement and that the Chair be authorised to sign on behalf of the CSI Council.

The CE added that the LS-C considers it essential that National Policy be developed related to managing the licence system. This policy would serve to confirm the roles of the respective 13 councils and describe the decision-making processes for the comprehensive management of the licence selling function of Fish and Game.

THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE LICENCE SYSTEM AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT WITH EYEDE LIMITED, AUTHORISES THE CHAIR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF CSI FISH AND GAME, AND TO SUBMIT TO THE NZ COUNCIL THAT NATIONAL POLICY BE DEVELOPED AROUND THE MANAGEMENT OF THE LICENSING SYSTEM.

20-050 GENERAL BUSINESS:

050.1 Communications Policy

S Bannister tabled an unnotified paper at the meeting that contained his thoughts on a Communications Policy. He asked that Councillors read the paper and provide feedback if they wish. Chair noted that Council can consider a new and better Communications Policy if one is put forward and noted that our Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024 is an important step toward better communication with stakeholders and shows how far we have come as a Council.

Meeting closed: 9:30 pm.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday 17 September 2020.

Signed



Date

17/9/2020