

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2014
AT CANTERBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY HALL, CHRISTCHURCH
COMMENCING AT 6.35PM

1. Present

Councillors: Martin Clements (Chairman), Bruce Kelly, Peter Robinson, Trevor Isitt, Cavan O'Connell, Malcolm Gilbert, Serge Bonnafoux, Jonathan Brooks,
Staff: Rod Cullinane, Debbie Ambler, Tony Hawker, Scott Pearson,
Public: Colin Eaton, Ron Stuart, Ray Baxter, Owen Young, Paul Gooch, Chris Brankin, Andy Sheppard, Keith Gibbs, Michael Clark, Geoff Clark, David Turner

2. Apologies

Councillors: Paul Farrow, Steve McNeill
Staff: Steve Terry, Dirk Barr, Andrew Currie (NZC Media Liaison).
Public: Alaister McPherson, Bob Loasby

Note: Cr Ken Lee advised subsequent to the meeting that he did put in an apology but this was not conveyed to Council

3. Welcome By Chairman

Cr Clements opened the meeting stating his disappointment at the small turnout and that it was important for stakeholders to attend to get an insight into what North Canterbury Fish and Game is doing. He however thanked and invited the attendees to stay on for the Council meeting which was to follow.

"That the apologies be accepted"

Moved: Cr Bonnafoux
Seconded: Cr Isitt Carried

4. Minutes from the Previous Annual General Meeting Dated 18th December 2013

"That the minutes from the previous meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record"

Moved: O Young
Seconded: R Stuart Carried

5. Summary of 2012/13 Issues and Achievements

R Cullinane welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened his summary by thanking staff for their hard work over the past year. He added that the North Canterbury region was large and the workload for such a small team was heavy.

Other points raised:

- thanked the volunteers and honorary rangers for their valuable contribution in assisting the day to day running of the region. He stated that the compliance procedures had been tightened up.
- thanked members of the North Canterbury Council for their significant effort to assist the running of the North Canterbury region.
- achieved all planned operational outputs
- released 358,000 salmon, 180,000 ova for planting and 4,000 ova fry, 41,000 rainbow and 44,000 brown trout
- was another successful year for the hatchery with a more than 90% hatch success rate and thanked D Barr and his team of volunteers for this. He thanked Isaac Conservation and Wildlife Trust and Montrose Station owners for their continued support.
- currently staff were busy GPS mapping all signage and mai mais within our region
- there was a recorded surplus of \$248,000, that licence sales were up by 12.6% predominantly as a result of higher fish licence sales. - sales YTD were up on last year.
- it was also the intention to address the game side of the Youth Programme half way through this coming year
- excellent progress with the Youth Programme but funding has been a challenge.
- received a lot of exposure through media over the year with a change of direction to more positive news stories
- that a resource consent was granted for change of use of property at 595 Johns Road and now looking at a new building on the site rather than refurbishing current building. Consent for a new build (not a building permit) to be submitted in January 2015. Possibility of enlisting assistance from stakeholders as the project develops was mooted.
- introduced Jonathan Brooks as an appointee to the NC F&G Council. Also mentioned that Jonathan had offered his company's products to assist with the new build.

R Stuart recorded his appreciation to D Barr and staff on work to supply ova and small fry for the salmon enhancement programme.

6. Presentation of the 2013/14 Annual Report

Cr Clements stated he was happy to present the Annual Report that would be discussed later in the meeting. He acknowledged Chris Goom's contribution to NC F&G after his resignation from Council and to Tony Matravers, who passed away recently, on his many years as a Council member and ranging volunteer.

7. Presentation of the Ian "Mac" McCrory Trophy for Volunteer of the Year

P Robinson thanked Colin Eaton, the recipient of the Ian "Mac" McCrory Trophy for 2014, on stepping up to organize other volunteers involved in enhancement work after the loss of B Moody. Also on his hard work on the project around Hacketts Creek.

Staff Presentations: -

1. T Hawker presented a number of graphs relating to salmon counts and runs for the Rakaia and Wamakariri rivers and also drift dive results for brown and rainbow trout.

He stated the paradise/shoveler duck count was significantly up with most coming from Lake Ellesmere and commented that the bag limit was going to be reviewed at the next regulations meeting. The mallard trend count was high but along with the waterfowl harvest was not as good as last year.

2. S Pearson spoke on resource management issues. Major cases he spoke on for 2014 were:

Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan Appeal

Ngai Tahu Balmoral Land Use Application

Selwyn Waihora Sub Regional Plan

Mt Hutt Station Irrigation Take

Grasmere Station Environment Court Appeal

Hurunui Waiau Nutrient Working Group

3. P Robinson summarised the year for the Youth Programme by stating there had been a record number of children taking part in the schools programme along with cubs, scouts, guides and brownie groups this year.

That Lake Lyndon family fishing day was once again successful.

He stated there would be five new recirculating tanks systems added to existing tank stocks and thanked Sunrise Rotary Trust for their donation towards these systems.

He reported other regions were taking up the Youth Programme especially the Fish In Schools pillar and that the Programme will be jointly funded by NZC and North Canterbury in the North Canterbury region next year.

He thanked D Barr and team for providing ova to raise in the classrooms and fish for release into the Groyne and Lake Lyndon. He also thanked Jake Williams (Young Ambassador) for his mentoring, Andrew and Blair Currie for their work and promotion on Sticky TV, and other agencies for their input into the Programme.

8. Annual Accounts – Question and Answer Session

Overhead Costs under Administration – Cr Bonnafoux asked why the Office Premises and General expenses were significantly over the budget figures for the year. R Cullinane replied there were a number of expenses incurred for 595 Johns Road (approx. \$18,500) which the auditors had recorded under Office expenses and a further \$75,000 from reserves for the Youth Programme shown as General expenses. Both amounts had come from reserves and should not be considered as normal operating expenses..

Cr Clements stated it was pleasing to see upward trends in family and junior licence sales which could possibly be attributed to the Youth Programme.

R Cullinane replied to a question that the NZ Council levy fee was set by the NZC and was calculated on licence sales.

R Cullinane also replied to a question that the average fine received from prosecutions was between \$500 - \$700 (sometimes more) and also includes forfeiture, Court costs as well as F&G costs. Internal procedures have been streamlined and that he spends half a day per month in court.

Discussion focused on the bag limit and reduction of the dabbling duck season to only one month. Cr Isitt stated that the longer season was in the best interest to provide sport for stakeholders as long as they were maintaining the population. T Hawker to ensure this be brought to the next Gamebird regulations review,

“That the 2014 Annual Report be adopted”

Moved:

Seconded:

Not completed

Cr Clements thanked staff and wished all a merry Christmas.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

_____ Chairman Date: _____