

**NORTHLAND FISH & GAME COUNCIL  
CONFIRMED MINUTES OF A MEETING  
HELD AT THE NORTHLAND FISH & GAME OFFICE  
NELL PLACE, WHANGAREI  
7.00 PM FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013.**

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** Dave Nicholson

**Councillors:** Kris Batelaan, Noel Birchall, Maurice Blyde, Phil Durham, Mason Elliott, Chris Lynch, Cameron Shanks, Mark Williamson.

**Conservation  
Board Member:** Richard Robbins

**Staff:** Rudi Hoetjes (Manager), Fay Stodart (Office Administrator)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the table.

**APOLOGIES:** Leo Leonard, Mike Newson, Wayne Pepper  
Darren Jones (Department of Conservation)

**It was moved:** *That those apologies are accepted.*

*Cameron Shanks/ Maurice Blyde* **CARRIED.**

**Previous Minutes**

**It was resolved:** *That the minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2013 are confirmed as true and correct, subject to changes as discussed by the Council.*

*Chris Lynch/Kris Batelaan* **CARRIED.**

**Matters Arising**

**Governance Policy Review Day**

The Council discussed the Governance Policy Review day which was scheduled for the following morning on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013. There was concern at the number of Councillors who could not attend the review day, but Council decided that the meeting should still go ahead as scheduled.

**Fire Safety Standards within the office**

The Manager met with the landlord recently as he disputed his share of the costs towards the alterations within the office. After going through each invoice and some negotiation, the landlord and the Manager came to an agreement that the landlord will pay \$5,000 plus GST towards the cost. The landlord also agreed to no increase in the rent for 12 months and will write a letter stating what they had agreed upon within this meeting.

**It was moved:** *That the Council will accept the Landlord's offer of settlement towards the cost of alterations to bring the office up to Fire Safety standard, subject to no increase in rent for 12 months.*

*Phillip Durham/Chris Lynch*

*CARRIED.*

***Rationale:***

*Northland Fish & Game requested a storage area which was built above the office when they first occupied and leased the building. It was suggested by the carpenters that entry should go through into the storage room via the Council Board room rather than a set of stairs from the workshop. Unbeknown at the time, this act compromised the fire safety rating. After a few months, this storage area was enlarged and enclosed with no extra permits. Because of this action, the Landlord felt that most of the cost to the alterations to bring the building back up to fire safety laid mostly on Northland Fish & Game and he was only prepared to pay \$5,000.00 plus GST towards the work.*

*The Council recognises and accepts that the work and alterations undertaken are for the benefit and operations of Fish and Game.*

**Greenheart Group Ltd Lease**

The Chairman and the Manager has signed the lease agreement on behalf of the Northland Fish & Game Council for the property adjacent to the Jack Bisset Wetland. The Manager will apply to the New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Trust for funds next year to develop the wetland.

**Into Committee Minutes**

Councillor Lynch enquired on the true and proper procedure of making a resolution to exclude the public, as the Council went Into Committee at the previous meeting. Councillor Lynch also queried on whether there should be an introductory statement and a resolved statement at the end of the "into committee" meeting and whether minutes should be taken and written up after the meeting. The Council requested the Manager to get instruction from the Auditors on "into committee" procedure.

**Manager's Activity Report**

The Council considered the operational report on a page by page basis.

**1211 Resource Management Act**

The Manager attended a meeting with the Minister of Conservation appointed review committee to discuss the future of Conservation Boards in the Northland region. The Manager gave his views on the current Conservation Board, conveying that there has always been a good representation around the Fish & Game table and communications between the two organisations have been very good. The restructuring of DoC has seen a lot of good people retired or lost and the new boundary for Northland extends to Hamilton. The Manager has been asked to complete a questionnaire by the review panel.



### **2014 Council Meeting Dates and Locations**

The Manager provided the Council with the recommended meeting schedule for 2014. The Council agreed to the dates and to have all meetings in Whangarei.

The following dates and locations are accepted.

Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Whangarei
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Whangarei
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Whangarei
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	Whangarei
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Whangarei
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Whangarei

**It was moved:** *That the dates for the Northland Fish & Game meetings are adopted for 2014.*

*Mason Elliott/Mark Williamson* *CARRIED.*

### **Hunter Survey**

The Chairman proposed that the Council undertake a survey prior to setting the 2014 Game Bird season regulations for the Northland Fish & Game region. The survey will be sent out by email to licence holders who have email addresses and a small number will be sent out by mail to licence holders and to Hunting Clubs. The Council discussed the questions which should be included in the survey.

The Manager reiterated that this survey is an opinion survey only and no changes should be made to the regulations in the 1<sup>st</sup> schedule of the game notices as these are generally formed and agreed to under national policy. The Chairman and Councillor Lynch will meet with Nathan to draw up the survey.

**It was moved:** *That the Council formulate a survey which will go out to Councillors for their input and subject to the agreement of wording and content, the survey will then be emailed to licence holders and hunting clubs, requesting a response back to Council by mid-November.*

*Dave Nicholson/Mason Elliott* *CARRIED.*

### **Approval of Annual Accounts**

**It was moved:** *That the annual accounts are circulated to individual Councillors prior to the Annual General Meeting and for each Councillor to approve in writing. Councillors are to forward any queries or concerns to the Manager or to the Chairman who will address them and provide a reply accordingly.*

*Noel Birchall/Mason Elliott* *CARRIED.*

### Managers Financial Report

It was moved: *That the Manager's Financial Report is deferred to the next Council meeting in December.*

*Chris Lynch/Noel Birchall* *CARRIED.*

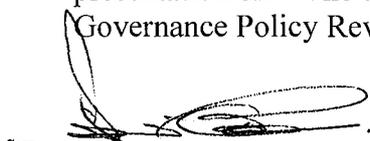
### Executive Limitations Report

It was moved: *That the Executive Limitations Report is received.*

*Mason Elliott/Mark Williamson* *CARRIED.*

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

After the formal meeting, the remaining Councillors watched a power point presentation on "Who are Fish & Game and what do we do" as an introduction to the Governance Policy Review which was held the following day.



*Dave Nicholson*  
*Chairman*