

HAWKE'S BAY FISH & GAME COUNCIL

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE GAME FARM ON TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2016 AT 6:00 PM

PRESENT

Councillors Hern, Mackie, Lumsden, Williams, Duley (Chairman), Bates and Niblett.

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick (Acting Regional Manager), Kirsty Holford (minute taker), Mark Venman, Nathan Burkepile, Christine Tuck (Hawke's Bay Fish & Game staff) and Matt McDougall (Eastern Region).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Murray Boaler.

INTRODUCTION

1.0 WELCOME

The meeting was opened by Cr Duley.

2.0 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received from Cr McIntosh.

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (9 August 2016)

AGREED

- 3.1** *That having been previously circulated to members, the minutes of the meeting of the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council held on 9 August 2016 are a true and correct record. [16/10/3.1]*

Hern/Williams

4.0 MATTERS ARISING:

Andy Garrick noted that there were a number of queries and issues raised at Council's last meeting in August which he had been unable to attend, and these warranted a brief response from him prior to proceeding with the main agenda for the meeting. Andy made the following comments:

Conflict of Interest

There had been a substantial discussion around the conflict of interest issue which he would address under the Standing Orders agenda item.

Operational Work Plan (OWP)

Andy agreed that more specific performance measures are required in our OWPs but while some improvements had been made to the 2016-17 plan staff had not been on deck long enough to

specify more detailed outputs. He advised that the next OWP will have more defined performance measures to report against.

Ban on Use of Lead Shot

Andy wished to clarify Cr Mackie's statement that a proposed ban on the use of lead shot did not get passed in the UK by noting that this resolution did not apply to the use of lead shot in wetlands.

IRD Letter

Andy advised that the letter from the IRD had not been included in the Papers for Information as he had not considered it a matter needing to be brought to Council's attention at this point in time. It has however, been included in the Papers for Information for this meeting. Sir Geoffrey Palmer has reviewed it and advised the four Fish & Game regions who have received the letter not to respond to it individually. Last week Bryce Johnson and Sir Geoffrey met with IRD officials who said that based on Sir Geoffrey's assessment they would need to have another look at the issue.

Craggy Range

Mark reported on trout liberations and advised that they had released 100 2-3 year old display trout into the pond at the Craggy Range winery. Mark also noted that they had finally been able to undertake the "autumn" liberation of trout into Lake Tutira today with the spring liberation due to occur in late November. Today's liberation comprised 2,250 rainbows and 500 browns. There was a brief discussion around a previous agreement with MPI regarding the potential impact of grass carp on the trout fishery and what would be done to offset any negative impacts experienced over time. Staff will investigate and report back to Council.

Game Season Compliance

Crs Lumsden and Mackie had expressed a wish to see more ranging being undertaken over the game season and whether we can extend this. Andy advised substantial effort could be put in after Opening Weekend for little return as other than with the possible exception of Queen's Birthday weekend, it can be hard to find hunters. He understood that there are likely to be some organised shoots taking place over Queen's Birthday weekend however, and if we could get some insight into where these are we could target our efforts more effectively next year. The comment was made that we need to emphasise the message that an increase in ranging efforts during the season is being planned and that this needs to be communicated to the public.

Bimonthly Health and Safety Report

Andy noted that Council was not prepared to formally receive or accept the Health and Safety Report presented in August. Andy advised that staff are now providing a dedicated Health and Safety report as one of our management reports to each meeting of Council, and all that is being asked is that Councillors acknowledge they have seen this as opposed to being asked to approve it. He noted that the Health and Safety Policy still needs to be ratified however (see agenda item).

Discounted Licences

Cr Lumsden had queried whether there could be a discount for people who buy both a fishing and game bird licence. Andy advised that this has previously been tabled for consideration by the national Licence Working Party but had been deferred until a review is undertaken of game season licencing.

Oath of Office

Andy noted that there had been a number of questions and concerns raised in relation to the proposed the oath of office. He advised that it was not mandatory to sign it, it was simply an acknowledgement or pledge to those who had voted Councillors in that they will do their best to govern in the interests of all anglers and hunters. It appears there is just one line in the text which is causing concern amongst some Councillors and that is the part in the second point relating to lands of all tenures. Andy advised that not all regions have adopted it. It was queried whether we could change the line of concern in the oath of office and Andy suggested there was no reason why it couldn't be. Andy asked whether Council wanted to sign something of this nature, and Councillors responded that if it came from the NZ Council and all other regions agreed to it they would have no issue with signing it subject to the wording in question being amended. Cr Williams commented that it appeared that none of the Councillors see value in having their own oath of office but would be interested in one from NZ Council and that he will take this to the next meeting of the NZ Council.

5.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cr Bates – captive reared mallard releases
- Cr Bates – duck banding
- Cr Lumsden –junior pheasant hunt and kids fishing
- Cr Mackie – insurance cover
- Cr Duley – Chairman's position
- Cr Bates – management going forward

6.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

No conflicts of interest were identified.

7.0 STANDING ORDERS

Council was asked to review the Conflict of Interest (COI) rules recently adopted by the NZ Council and one other change it has made to the Standing Orders for the conduct of meetings of the NZ Council.

Andy spoke about how, at the August meeting, Council had adopted a regional version of the Standing Orders with the exclusion of the Conflict of Interest section which was still being

debated then by the NZ Council. He advised that it has since been adopted by NZ Council. He outlined also, a proposed change that has been made to what constitutes a working day. He advised that there were three other items/amendments that Eastern Region has recently put into its Standing Orders that this Council might be interested in doing also.

In relation to the conflict of interest matter, Andy circulated some information in an email prior to the meeting to help provide some clarity. Fish & Game is a public entity, and on matters such as this it takes advice from the office of the Auditor General and takes into account provisions within the Crown Entity Act. A definition of what constitutes a conflict of interest is in the Governance Policy which this Council has adopted so further debate in relation to this is unwarranted. The NZ Council has adopted a set of rules for dealing with COIs and the expectation is that regional councils' rules should at the very least be consistent with the NZ Council's. Andy recommended that the definition of a COI be put into the glossary of the Standing Orders so that only one document needs to be referred to. Page 21 lists the Conflict of Interest rules and what the Council needs to do if it perceives there is a conflict of interest. Andy raised the question of whether we want to go with the flow i.e. adopt the NZ Council rules. Councillors confirmed that this is what Hawke's Bay need to do. There were some concerns raised that the term "pecuniary interest" is too broad. In dealing with conflict of interest, the risk is not just the actual misconduct, but the risk that the reputation is damaged as a consequence of public perception. Cr Duley brought up the example of the mallard releases and concluded that Council retained flexibility under the rules to agree whether there is a perceived conflict of interest. The policy gives some discretion under clause 1.13.2(3) (page 21). There is actually a lot of discretion available and really it has to be looked at on a case by case basis.

Andy advised that the change to the definition of "working day" has been suggested in order to bring it into line with what constitutes a working day in other legislation and that the change is of no real consequence.

Another change suggested is to apply some kind of ceiling to the number of hours that the Council will meet for. Andy advised that the Eastern Region Council had adopted a three hour meeting ceiling with the ability to extend that to four hours if necessary to cover off all items in the agenda without having to break and take a special vote to do so. Cr Bates thought that this was really not necessary and that we should just carry on discussing the issues until we had finished without worrying about what the time was. Most Councillors believed that the matter was unlikely to crop up as Hawke's Bay meetings are completed in the 3-4 hour range. Andy asked whether we wanted to try and run our meetings within a time slot and everyone advised that we should aim to get it wrapped up within three hours i.e. by 9.00 pm.

Andy then outlined another amendment that the Eastern Region had made to clause 2.61 (page 22) that gave Councillors the opportunity to connect electronically to the meeting if they were unable to attend in person.

AGREED

7.1 *That Council adopts the Conflict of Interest rules and amended definition of ‘working day’ recently approved by the NZ Councils and agrees to include the other changes discussed, and approves the Standing Orders subject to the amendments it agrees to being incorporated. [16/10/7.1]*

Bates/Williams

8.0 2017 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

Council was asked to review the 2016 Hawke’s Bay Game Season conditions and highlight 2017 Game Season issues for consideration at Council’s November meeting.

Andy advised that this was an opportunity for Councillors to talk about changes that they might contemplate or, more particularly, what information Councillors want from staff in order to support their decision making in November.

In relation to the banding issue, Matt confirmed that they had adopted a threshold approach last year and he hoped to have the banding results available by November. The mallard and grey population estimate graph (page 24) shows some cyclical behaviour and that the curve is taking us down close to the limit of a restricted/intermediate season. Andy advised that we might wish to discuss the conditions or restraints that might apply to those. Cr Williams does not believe that we are very likely to ever get out of an intermediate set and he believes that we should examine the parameters that we have for an intermediate game season length to allow us to get beyond a six week season.

Matt noted we have been banding mallard and grey duck in this region for 16 years bar one year when it didn’t occur. He has been able to use that data to get an insight into what is affecting duck survival rates. Banding information provides information that is used to determine what the effects of our regulations are and to provide us with an understanding of survival rates, productivity and dispersal. Productivity is important to know as this is what is driving the population. Trapping and banding provides information on the condition of birds and provides a means of estimating population size. Cr Williams believes that it is time to examine the parameters that we are using as we are limiting hunter opportunities. He wonders whether we need to be quite so restrictive on the hunters i.e. six weeks rather than eight weeks. Matt advised that if we go from a six week season to an eight week season, harvest increases by 42%. Cr Williams queried whether this means that we shoot another 2,000 birds in the last two weeks?

Matt advised that when Hawke’s Bay had a six week season, we had a seven bird bag limit. When we had an eight week season, we had a 10 bird bag limit and it is really difficult to tease out the effects of each of these parameters in those years i.e. season length versus bag limit. Cr Williams again queried why we want to be restrictive if the population is increasing. Matt said that the linear model which says that the population is increasing is unlikely to be correct and that the cyclic model is more statistically acceptable. He advised that banding allows us to test different factors and model what is happening over time. In Hawke’s Bay it appears that season length is really important. As season length extends, hen survival decreases, and hens in poor

condition have a lower survival rate during the breeding season. Increasing season length has a compounding effect on hens' ability to produce. As a Council we need to be careful setting regulations for mallards to ensure we don't compromise next year's population. Andy advised that staff are able to advise what the possible effects of Council decisions might be and provide some guidance, but it is Council that has to weigh the risks and make the decisions. Matt believes that the regulations that we generally set in relation to bag limits are so relaxed that 92% of hunters never shoot a bag limit on the day. No ducks are shot on approximately 40% of the total number of days hunted overall according to harvest data.

In relation to the threshold criteria for black swan, the relaxed season has been changed to an eight week season (page 32) and the "no limit" has been changed to a five swan limit. Councillors suggested that the restricted length for swans should be the same as for mallards with a bag limit of one. Andy advised that this will need to be discussed and confirmed in November.

Cr Lumsden asked if we do have a longer season, can we start the season earlier rather than finishing it later? Councillors thought that perhaps it should be brought forward by one week. Andy advised that a special case would need to be made for this to go to the Minister for approval and the proposal would need to be debated nationally, as it has been in the past. Time frames are really tight and it wouldn't be an option to pursue for the 2017 game season. Council suggested it might be worth putting a recommendation to NZ Council to consider this and Andy agreed we could do that.

In relation to paradise ducks, the trend count says we have a stable population but hunters are generally saying that the population is increasing. Matt confirmed that bag limits definitely affect paradise ducks. Council raised the matter that if our population is stable, are we concerned? Matt believes that it is probably too early to say whether we are having a major impact but added that it is probably best to leave the limit where it is for now. Cr Mackie mooted a February season. Cr Hern does not have a problem with it if it is land based only and not over water. Nor should we be negative about shooting paradise ducks outside of our normal season if a landholder is having issues as this leads to landowners taking the law into their own hands. We need to be proactive approach and make it clear that that permits to disturb are available if individuals have an issue. It was suggested that staff should go down to CHB to talk to farmers here who have a problem with paradise ducks and let them know that they are not going to get a negative response if they apply for a permit outside of the season. Council discussed how we can best educate people about paradise ducks. Press releases go out each year and staff will be in attendance at the A&P show later this week and this is a good place to start but we also need to contact farmers to be able to get information directly to them. It was suggested that the CHB show in November would probably be more useful to make contact with landowners there than via the local Hawke's Bay A&P show, and articles in farming publications such as the Farmers Weekly would be worthwhile.

Last year's season for pukeko was reduced to six weeks. Council is happy for it to be extended to match the upland game season.

Cr Hern raised the issue of magazine restrictions and queried whether we want hunters to shoot fewer birds if our population is stable. He advised that multiple shots were resulting in birds being injured and that hunters were continuing to fire at birds that are flying away and that that is resulting in more crippled birds. Matt said that he is not sure whether this is the case. Andy said that three years ago Council made a call to go this way but that Council should be able to look at things again without being criticized for doing so if it is for the betterment of the licence holder. Cr Hern said that his issue is with the dropping of magazine capacity from 3 to 2 and he asked whether everybody is still happy with the original reasons for doing so and whether anybody had changed their view. Councillors confirmed that they did not want to revisit the magazine restriction decision. Cr Duley advised that the next issue then is the number in the magazine extension. There was some discussion around safety with hunters not needing to have one in the chamber unnecessarily while in the maimai.

Cr Hern confirmed that the vast majority of guns that came in this year had a three shot magazine extension and that he would like to see us go to a three shot restriction this year. It was asked whether Council wanted to go with the status quo of 2 + 1, or go to what Cr Hern requested of 3 + 1. Cr Williams supported Cr Hern on the basis that it may make the killing of wounded birds more effective. Cr Bates said that he would like it to stay the same as the other regions if possible. Cr Niblett said that he supports 2 + 1 or alternatively a 3 shot maximum. Cr Lumsden supports 2 + 1 as he feels that changing it again now would annoy hunters. Accordingly there were four councillors in favour of 2 + 1 and two councillors in favour of 3 + 1. This means at this stage that the Council will be sticking with what we announced two years ago unless there is a change of minds at the November Council meeting.

The question was raised whether we should consider changing the permitted shooting hours to being from 6.30 am to 6.00 pm or 6.15 pm rather than the current 6.15 am to 6.30 pm. This could be a somewhat contentious change. It was asked whether we wanted this to go out as a point of discussion as we would need to get the ball rolling fairly quickly. All Councillors were in favour of this being put out for discussion although we need to give a number of options as to what the times should be and see what feedback is received over the next month.

9.0 STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Council was asked to identify its top five priorities relating to regional Fish & Game functions that warrant development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Andy confirmed that there was a general agreement by NZ Council and staff that there is a need to standardise many of the things we do and have a national policy, position or SOP for. There has been a request to look at the functions we are involved with and identify functions or activities that will benefit from having SOPs. Andy felt that a better question the NZ Council should be asking regions is what are the national policies that we need developed to guide us?

Andy confirmed that there is currently a national Governance Policy which has been adapted for regions along with a Health and Safety policy and plan, Standing Orders, a national Reparation Policy, a boating manual and a Ranger Guide, and there is a Fisheries SOP in preparation. There is also a 2009 Policy Manual compiled by the NZ Council which has 50 policies that are in draft

format and appear not to have been ratified. He suggested that maybe we should be going back to the NZ Council and asking them to dust off these drafts as a starting point. He suggested also, that in his opinion Councils should be focussing on policy development rather than SOPs which are more a matter for staff to consider and put together.

Andy suggested national policies that could or need to be developed include one relating to the use and release of captive reared mallards, a catch and release Code of Practice, Fish & Game's position on grass carp and silver carp, 1080, sponsorship and other alternative sources of income, branding, cost saving procedures e.g. bulk purchase, uniform, etc.

Cr Williams said that as a result of a working party in March 2015 it was identified that there was a need and some urgency to develop national policies which is quite a different matter from the development of SOPs. Andy asked Council whether it saw any obvious issues needing to be addressed. Councillors agreed that SOPs were generally a matter for operational staff to prepare, but a number of national policies were needed. Suggestions for the NZ Council include 1080, criteria/processes for setting regulations, permitting/approvals for upland game properties and holding, rearing, releasing birds, etc. We should also get feedback to NZ Council that the existing draft national policy manual needs to be reviewed.

If there is anything further that Councillors want to add, this needs to be emailed to Andy by the end of next week with a list of things that they think would be useful.

10.0 INFORMATION FOR THE 2015-2016 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

Council was asked to review the draft Chairman's report, Statement of Service Performance report and draft Financial Statements for the 2015-2016 Performance (Annual) Report.

Andy advised that the draft is subject to some change (as we are still waiting for some final numbers to come in) but it is fairly indicative of where we ended up at year's end. There are some variances from last year's work plan but we have endeavoured to keep critical projects and activities ticking over as best we can. In relation to our financial position, we have ended up with an approximately \$30k surplus due largely to increased revenue from licence sales. This is at odds with most other regions. We have not generated large savings as there have been substantial expenses associated with rectifying matters and moving on from the previous management regime. Considering all of that however, we are not looking too bad at all.

It was noted that the draft finance report deals with external costs only at this stage.

Councillors said that they would like to see some in between updates. Andy said that this is what we present in our bimonthly management reports as included further into this agenda.

AGREED

10.1 That Council receive the draft reports comprising the Statement of Service Performance, Chairman's report, and draft Financial Statements for the 2015-2016 year. [16/10/10.1]

Niblett/Lumsden

11.0 HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Council was asked to adopt the draft Health & Safety Policy for the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council based on the new Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

Andy commented that at the June meeting, Cr Lumsden had raised concerns about some of the wording in the Health and Safety policy. The NZ Council have adopted the policy but there is no reason why we cannot still re-visit that. Andy would like to recommend that the wording change (refer page 38) was a useful change.

Andy accepts Cr Lumsden's proposed wording changes to council's commitment but that the rest needs to remain as it is as we cannot modify the intent of the legislation.

Cr Mackie outlined recent prosecutions that had been taken that he believes clearly demonstrate that Fish & Game Councillors can be prosecuted and fined which is in direct contrast to the legal opinion that Fish & Game obtained and other legal opinions that have been posted elsewhere. Andy suggested Cr Mackie forward him details of those prosecutions and the legal precedents that have apparently been set so that he can take these to the National Office and request a legal review be undertaken on behalf of all Fish & Game regions.

Andy advised that the draft Health and Safety policy has been adopted by most if not all Fish & Game regions and asked whether this Council is now prepared to go with it? Cr Lumsden felt that we were not in a position to vote on it given the issues Cr Mackie had just raised and we should defer a vote on it until the next meeting.

12.0 LIAISON OFFICERS REPORTS

12.1 East Coast/Hawke's Bay Conservation Board

Nothing to report.

12.2 Reports from other agencies

No reports received.

12.3 Report from the New Zealand Council

Cr Williams advised that Sir Geoffrey Palmer had presented a legal opinion in regards to the letter from IRD. He spoke about RMA changes and how we should approach these changes. He confirmed that the professional guides licence has finally been signed but that it has taken 10 years to get an agreement. It is now going to the Minister for approval and it should hopefully be in place for 1 October 2017. In relation to the management and research reports, there was not much to report he could advise that the communication sector had been very active. They had sponsored the duck calling competition and had received a lot of good publicity over that, and they were continuing to build up a positive view of how Fish & Game operates in the public eye.

13.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

13.1 Management Report

Cr Niblett asked why we were starting to monitor pheasant populations in the lower reaches of our rivers and questioned the purpose and methodology. Nathan replied that

he had approached HBRC and they were planning to work together to improve habitat on the river margins in the lower reaches for pheasants. Nathan was keen to monitor the population to determine the impacts of management on the pheasant population. Cr Niblett then asked Nathan how he was going to distinguish wild from released pheasants and pointed out that there were a number of individuals that released birds around those rivers that would likely affect the results of his monitoring. Nathan confirmed that we can't and noted there wasn't a practical or cost effective way of distinguishing wild birds from released birds in areas where releases have been undertaken. He noted our main aim is to improve habitat values for pheasants on the river margins we simply need to monitor overall pheasant numbers and it doesn't really matter whether they are wild or released birds. Cr Niblett felt that we really do need to be able to identify the origins of populations that are being monitored but Nathan considered it was still useful to have some index of pheasant numbers regardless of their origin.

Nathan will endeavour to locate historical pheasant monitoring data for the region that Councillors advised was available (crow counts and flushing counts). There was also some discussion regarding the cost of this monitoring and the number of hours that this monitoring would take. Nathan estimated that this work would take approximately 20 hours. Cr Niblett added that it was great that Fish & Game was working with the Regional Council to improve pheasant habitat but monitoring of pheasant numbers in this manner would not be of any benefit.

Cr Lumsden said that he had had a discussion with Chris Cross on the regulation notices in back country huts and the catch and release posters. He asked whether we have a copy of the regulations going in at the same time and Christine confirmed that yes we did.

The Ngaruroro WCO has gone to a special tribunal as is the normal procedure but the Minister of the Environment has yet to set a date for it to convene.

Cr Hern asked how he could get hold of the HBRC River Works Code of Practice. Mark advised that he had a hard copy which Cr Hern could look at.

In relation to funding approved by the Habitat Trust (page 45 of Agenda), it was noted that it was interesting to look at what had been asked for and what was actually funded. Nathan noted that larger projects tended to get more funding.

In relation to the junior hunt photos, Nathan confirmed that they are still sitting on his computer and that he just has to convert them to jpegs before they can be emailed out to the juniors. He hopes to be in a position to do this next week.

13.2 Health and Safety Report

No comment.

13.3 Finance Report

It was asked whether Fish & Game had paid for all of the ammunition purchased for the junior pheasant hunt or only that used, and whether there had been any left over. Cr

Duley confirmed that he still had the left over ammunition from the junior hunt and added that there were about two cases that he will return.

There was some discussion around disparities and a lack of clarity in financial reports. Cr Niblett noted that in the first part of the report it stated that we were under budget for species monitoring. Nowhere did it mention that this related to external costs only. When you looked at the variance report in Table 2 which took into account internal costs (hours x overhead costs) it was apparent that the overall budget for species monitoring was actually well over budget due to higher than expected internal costs. The reasons for going well over budget were explained in that Matt McDougall had spent a large amount of time finding and transferring banding data from previous Hawke's Bay records. Some councillors commented that this reporting appears to be misleading and would like future reports to be clearer.

AGREED

13.3.1 Council approved the following payments:

<i>July 2016 – Table 3</i>	<i>\$20,378.24</i>
<i>August 2016 – Table 4</i>	<i>\$36,452.20</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$56,830.44</i>

[16/10/13.3.1]

Bates/Niblett

13.4 Licence Sales Report

No comment.

14.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Mallard releases – Cr Bates said that he was keen to release more than the 350 birds per year which Council had informally adopted at its May 2016 meeting as an interim maximum until such time as the pros and cons of captive reared mallard releases had been scientifically reviewed and national policy formulated. Cr Williams advised that the NZ Council had resolved to ask staff to provide the science on reasons for and against release. Andy commented that he was unaware of this request having been put to staff or the mallard research committee but advised he would request an update on where this was at. Council indicated they wished to see some rapid progress made in this area.
- Banding – Cr Bates asked how much we are going to spend on banding this year and how big a job it will be. Of the \$9,000 external cost, about \$6,500 had been allocated to banding. Nathan believes that if we are going to do banding, it needs to be done properly and that we need to be aiming to trap 1,000 birds or more. Cr Mackie thinks that about 900 were done in the CHB last year. It was asked whether we are part of the national mallard programme and Nathan confirmed that both banding and the aerial transect counts are a part of that.

- Junior Pheasant Hunt – Cr Lumsden asked whether this was provided for in the OWP. Nathan advised that resourcing was available for it but staff felt there was a need to review additional and/or alternative options for encouraging young and/or novice hunters. Staff would prepare a paper around for consideration at Council’s November meeting.
- Cr Mackie – Cr Mackie wanted to know the details of the insurance cover that Fish & Game holds and what exactly we are covered for, particularly as far as Councillors are concerned given the information he conveyed earlier in the meeting relating to the liability of Councillors. Christine undertook to provide that information to Cr Mackie.
- Chairman – Cr Duley agreed in November 2015 to take on the Chairman’s job as long as he was replaced in February 2016. He feels that it has come to the point where he no longer has time to do the job justice and that Council needs to come up with a replacement. Cr Bates thanked Cr Duley for his efforts to date. Cr Williams advised that he would be happy to take on the Chairman’s job but that he was very keen to keep on as the Hawke’s Bay appointee to the NZ Council also. Cr Bates did not think it would be a good look to have the same person doing both jobs as it provided too much opportunity for manipulation. Cr Williams was asked if he took on the Chairman’s job would he be prepared to give up the NZ Council role. He stated his reluctance to relinquish his position on the NZ Council and felt he could better serve the hunters and fishermen of Hawke’s Bay by remaining in both roles. It was agreed that a decision could not be made tonight but would need to be at the November meeting.
- Management moving forward – Cr Bates queried whether Andy and the Eastern Fish and Game Council were happy for him to carry on as he currently was. Andy advised that the Eastern Council was leaving it to him to decide, but from his own perspective he considered we’d come to a point where it was an option and timely for him to be withdrawing from the role he’d been playing over the past 15 months. Andy considered that Hawke’s Bay now has staff capable of operating more independently and taking on more of the management mantle, and he would like to discuss that further in a public excluded session. He noted he was more than happy to continue on in a mentoring role if Council considered that might be useful.

15.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

AGREED

15.1 *It was agreed that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely a discussion on governance matters. [16/10/15.1]*

Bates/Lumsden

The meeting went into recession at 10.10 pm for a publicly excluded session that commenced at 10.15 pm and concluded at 10.55 pm.

There being no further business to attend to at the conclusion of the public excluded session, the meeting closed at 10.55 pm.

CONFIRMED

Date:

29 / 11 / 16.



CHAIRMAN

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (9 August 2016)

- 3.1 *That having been previously circulated to members, the minutes of the meeting of the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council held on 9 August 2016 are a true and correct record. [16/10/3.1]*

Hern/Williams

7.0 STANDING ORDERS

- 7.1 *That Council adopts the Conflict of Interest rules and amended definition of 'working day' recently approved by the NZ Councils and agrees to include the other changes discussed, and approves the Standing Orders subject to the amendments it agrees to being incorporated. [16/10/7.1]*

Bates/Williams

10.0 INFORMATION FOR THE 2015-2016 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

- 10.1 *That Council receive the draft reports comprising the Statement of Service Performance, Chairman's report, and draft Financial Statements for the 2015-2016 year. [16/10/10.1]*

Niblett/Lumsden

13.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- 13.3.1 *Council approved the following payments:*

<i>July 2016 – Table 3</i>	<i>\$20,378.24</i>
<i>August 2016 – Table 4</i>	<i>\$36,452.20</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$56,830.44</i>

[16/10/13.3.1]

Bates/Niblett

15.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

- 15.1 *It was agreed that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely a discussion on governance matters. [16/10/15.1]*

Bates/Lumsden