

HAWKE'S BAY FISH & GAME COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE GAME FARM ON TUESDAY 3rd of December 2019 AT 6.00 PM

PRESENT:

Messrs: Bates, (Chair), Bowcock, Duley, Elstone, Lumsden, MacKay, Pinker, Nimon, Niblett and Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE

Jesse Friedlander (Manager)

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Graeme Jobey, Steve Perfect, Bob Spain, Red Hooper, Michael Percy and Aaron Wakeford

INTRODUCTION

1.0 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed staff, councillors and the general public; he opened the meeting at 6.00pm advising the meeting would be recorded.

2.0 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

3.0 FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

No general business tabled.

4.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

The conflict of interest register was passed around for signatures and councillors to note any conflicts with the listed August agenda items. No conflicts of interest were tabled.

5.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

5.1 That having been previously circulated to members, the minutes of the meeting of the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council held on 15 October 2019 are a true and correct record.

Bowcock/Lumsden

6.0 MATTERS ARISING:

The 2018/19 budget surplus was brought up as the Manager had not been available to talk about this at the October meeting. Cr. Bates explained to Council that costs had been reduced by hiring a manager at the end of September as Cr. Bates was unpaid as Acting Manager during this time. Staff costs had also been reduced as well as a total of \$4400 saved on the magazine and newsletter. Our licence sales had risen and we are up on budgeted income from interest. Council wishes to thank our Office Administrator Christine Tuck for her work promoting licence sales and making sure we earn good interest rates.

7.0 ADOPTION OF THE 2018/2019 PERFORMANCE REPORT

That Council Adopts the Performance Report for the 2018/2019 Year

Duley/Lumsden

8.0 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS

Jesse (Manager) stated that staff had been in contact with Matariki Forests and Panpac to discuss upland game hunting opportunities in local pine forests for the upcoming season. If these blocks are not secured, the section related to this in the game season conditions should be deleted.

- 4.1 That Restrictive conditions for the 2020 game season comprise a 6-week season with a bag of 6 mallard and grey duck (unless monitoring in January reveals there has been a significant collapse in the populations in which case staff are authorised to reduce the bag limit to 3-4 birds if deemed necessary); Intermediate conditions comprise a 6-week season with a bag of 8 mallard and grey duck; and Relaxed conditions comprise an 8-week season with a bag of 10 mallard and grey duck.*
- 4.2 That paradise shelduck thresholds and conditions match those of the mallard/grey duck and regulations be based on January 2020 monitoring results.*
- 4.3 That black swan thresholds remain the status quo but the bag limit if Restrictive conditions apply be increased from none to one, and the 2020 regulations be based on January 2020 monitoring results.*
- 4.4 That Council change shooting hours to 6:15am-6:00pm.*
- 4.5 That the remaining conditions for 2020 are as per those that applied in 2019*
- 4.6 That Council remove the section related to upland game balloted blocks if staff are unsuccessful in negotiating access for hunter this season.*

Pinker/Bowcock

9.0 EVALUATION OF COUNCIL

Cr. Bates questioned whether everyone had filled in the evaluation form which had been sent out with the agenda and papers. These were collected up and information to be collated by the Chair.

10.0 POLICY ON HONORARY RANGER APPRECIATION

A discussion centred around advice requested from Robert Sowman (NZC) on the legality of providing rangers with tokens of appreciation. It was advised that a maximum dollar value be put on the gift and criteria for receiving this gift should include participation in organised ranging events.

That a maximum dollar value of gifts presented to rangers by the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council be \$100
Duley/Lumsden

That the policy on honorary ranger appreciation is approved by Council with the above change.
Mackay/Elstone

11.0 REQUEST TO UTILISE FUNDS FROM THE WILDLIFE FUND

Discussion centred around different proposed uses for the Game Farm, the proposed wetland project and the current approved 'stage 1' development consisting of the two smaller ponds in the plan included in the papers.

It was decided that decisions made up to this point on the Game Farm development should be compiled for the next meeting. A decision on the use of the Wildlife Fund is to be delayed until then.

12.0 APPROVAL OF THE 2019/2020 FINANCIAL BUDGET

12.1 That Total additions of \$4,896 be approved for the 2019/2020 budget

Niblett/Lumsden

13.0 LIASION OFFICERS REPORTS

Cr. Duley provided Council with a report on the NZ Council meeting and Governors conference which took place in Christchurch. A large percentage of the NZ Council meeting was in public excluded and so there was a lot from the meeting that he couldn't talk about.

Governors' Conference

- Mervin English, advisor to the Minister for Conservation was present
- There was a presentation from Bruce Robertson, the auditor who carried out the two other Council audits (excluding Hawke's Bay).

NZ Council Meeting

- There was a presentation from the North Canterbury Chairman which detailed their experience with their audit and included material on governance. Following this, the Chair requested that the governors vote for a strategic review to look at what needs to be changed in Fish and Game's legislation. Cr. Duley announced at the time that this was an unsatisfactory way of going about this.
- Mike Jasper (communications expert) gave a presentation
- NZ Council has agreed in principal to look at engaging an in-house lawyer. It is thought that this will result in cost savings.
- Discussion around the infringement systems policy and maximum fines which could be less than an offender currently receives through diversion. It was decided at the meeting to leave this for the time being until more appropriate fines could be put in place.
- The hunting code of conduct will be circulated to Councils.
- There is a memorandum of understanding that is to be signed with the Jetboating Assn.

14.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

- Jesse informed Council that the planned liberation of trout in Lake Tutira had not gone ahead this spring and instead the trout would be released in the Rotorua Lakes.
- There was a discussion around the cost of fish purchased, when we need to order trout for future liberations.
- Red Hooper, a member of the public requested to speak and talked about concerns with the current gravel extraction program implemented by HBRC in the Tukituki catchment.
- Cr. Williams voiced concerns over the money invoiced by Jamieson Earthmoving. The work will be completed over summer.

**14.1 That Council receives the health and safety report.
Duley/Niblett**

6.1 That Council approves the following payments:

<i>September 2019 – Table 5</i>	<i>68,005.61</i>
<i>October 2019 – Table 6</i>	<i>27,809.08</i>
<i>Total to Approve</i>	<i>95,814.69</i>

6.2 That Council accepts the Finance Report.

Duley/Pinker

That Council accepts the licence sales report

Lumsden/Nimon

15.0 Public Excluded Session


That the public is excluded from the following section of the meeting while allowing Jesse Friedlander (Regional Manager) to stay for the purpose of recording the minutes.

Nimon/Lumsden

That the public meeting of the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council resumes

Lumsden/Elstone

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:00pm.



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Bruce Bates – Chairman

4 Feb. 2020.....

Date