

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held on Wednesday 11 December 2019
At 595 Johns Road, Harewood
Commencing at 6.35 pm**

1. Present:

Councillors: Alan Strong (Chair), Bill Southward, Rex Gibson, Stu Henderson, Trevor Isitt, Roy Knight, Richard O’Keefe, Phillip Musson, Dave Coll, Ken Lee, Graeme Nahkies (Governance Specialist), Chris Brankin (Ngai Tahu Rep)

Staff: Rasmus Gabrielsson (CE NCF&G), Debbie Ambler

In Attendance: Richard Cosgrove (National Communications Advisor), Carmel Veitch (NZ F&G Accountant), Larry Burke, Mike Agar, Michael Bate, Greg Tarras, Geoff Clark, David Kirkness, Colin Eaton, Greg Tarras, Jan Price, Chris Shunker, Mark Abrahamson, Ian Forsyth, Graeme Chinnery, John Butler

2. Apologies:

Councillors: Nil

Staff: Nil

Public: Bruce Kelly

3. Welcome

Cr Strong welcomed everyone to the meeting. Points raised in his introduction;

- Currently focusing on what is best for the resource and stakeholders going forward;
- The death of Councillor D O’Neill;
- That only minor items were outstanding from the 10 recommendations NCF&G were required to carry out as outlined in the 2018 Audit Report;
- On behalf of Council thanked R Cosgrove for stepping in as Interim Manager for NCF&G during a very difficult time;
- Introduced R Gabrielsson as the new Chief Executive of NCF&G. R Gabrielsson gave a brief presentation on his background;
- That the new adaptive management strategy for sea run salmon would be implemented in the 20/21 fishing season;
- Concerns regarding Plan Change 7.

4. Confirmation of Minutes from the 2018 Annual General Meeting

The following amendments were made to;

Under Item 8 - Summaries of Issues and Achievements 2017/2018

- The Youth Programme had a successful year integrating 30 schools around the region. The Programme had to be terminated however due to reduced hatchery output and lack of funding;

Under Item 9 – Annual Performance Report

- Accounts showing a surplus due to a Bequest of **\$500,000.00** received during the financial year.
“That the minutes from the 2018 AGM be confirmed”.

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Gibson

Carried

5. Summary of 2018/2019 Issues and Achievements

R Cosgrove explained the implementation of changes that had been required from the 2018 Audit during his tenure as Interim Manager from February to October 2019.

R Gabriellsson explained the challenges ahead which included resetting the direction for NCF&G. To safeguard the resource for the future, careful consideration would be given to the responses to the National Freshwater Reform, the Bio Diversity Strategy and Plan Change 7.

6. Presentation of the 2018/2019 Annual Report

C Veitch explained the \$173,102 deficit was due to income being under budget and a \$50,000.00 error in last year's reporting. The write down of fish stocks had also impacted nett profit.

R Gabriellsson explained the hatchery rearing and release strategy was being reviewed and a press release would be forth coming prior to Xmas.

R Gabriellsson spoke on future strategies with ECan regarding water flows / kermecs / water allocations to users and how staff would address these concerns.

“That the 2018/2019 Annual Report be confirmed”.

Moved: Cr Knight

Seconded: Cr Coll

Carried

7. Presentation of the Ian “Mac” McCrory Volunteer Trophy

R Gabriellsson gave background to the Trophy prior to presenting it to Mike Agar. He thanked M Agar for his dedication and contribution towards running the hatcheries.

8. Presentation of the 2019 Environment Awards

R Cosgrove gave a quick brief on the recipient of this years' award, Leeston dairy farmer John Legg. Since returning to the farm seven years ago, the farm has taken on a regenerative approach with the view that agriculture is a biological system and not a chemical one. Award to be presented to J Legg at the February 2020 Council meeting.

11. General Business

Points raised;

- Due to a change in management, the gates to Lake Pearson remain locked;
- Concern over variance in weights of fish in Lake Coleridge – R Gabriellsson stated a project to gather data on fish weights would be looked at;
- That staff would work on a project alongside Trust Power to open camping sites in the high country;
- Concern raised on the year-round season and the use of boats on Loch Katrine as it was being over-used and on the protection of spawning streams in the area. Lack of policing in the area was a concern also. Staff to visit area in new year;
- As black shags were a protected native species and managed by DoC and Iwi, they could not be added to the gamebird list;
- In answer to what the Council was doing regarding spays in waterways, R Gabriellsson responded that the core priority was to look at saving waterways that could be saved and were good now. R Gabriellsson stated there needed to be work carried out on lowland stream degradation.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.48 pm

Chairman: _____

Dated: _____