

# CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Central South Island Fish and Game Council held in the Boardroom, 32 Richard Pearse Drive, Temuka, on Thursday 23 June 2016 at 7:00 pm.

Present: J Cruden D Isbister  
S Gerard P McLauchlan  
B Growcott G Rooney (Chairman)  
M Hall

In Attendance:

Staff: J Graybill (Chief Executive), B Dolan, J Couper, A Christensen, M Webb, H Stevens and R Adams.

RDR: Ben Currie (from 7 pm to 8:10 pm)

Members of the Public: Approx 14

## 16-023 APOLOGIES:

D Winterburn (DOC), L Koevoet, B Whipp, W Spry, J Henry, and K Payne.

Resolved (Growcott/McLauchlan)

16-023

**THAT THE APOLOGIES BE ACCEPTED.**

## 16-024 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

Chairman queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register. None were forthcoming.

## 16-025 NOTIFIED GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Council Vacancy (SG)

## 16-026 RANGITATA MATTERS:

### 026.1 Briefing by RDRML (B Currie) on Storage Proposal

P de Joux was invited to speak to the Salmon Anglers Assn correspondence sent to CSI Fish and Game raising concerns related to exclusion of salmon from the RDR.

P de Joux stated that the letter was sent as a result of frustration from anglers and the Salmon Anglers Assn as to not having knowledge about what is being done to exclude salmon smolt from the RDR. SAA felt that there didn't appear to be an effective fish screen working considering the Rangitata River is a nationally significant sports fishery.

Council responded that it had been working with RDR to get good outcomes but up to this point there hasn't been much success. The system has been progressively modified to try and improve it and many attempts have been made to solve the problem but so far it hasn't worked. Council stressed to the SAA attendees that no one has been sitting around and not doing anything and that a lot of work has gone in to make it work.

Ben Currie, RDRML Chief Executive, replied to the concerns noting that RDR were recently served with non-compliance of their consent by ECan. In response RDR has



now put forward a storage proposal that requires a fish screen. ECan have agreed to remove non-compliance if RDR puts a screen in place.

B Currie expanded on his explanation noting that the BAFF was promoted principally over turbidity in the water and that advice was carried through into a consent. There has been a battle with turbidity and velocity. Many things have been done to try and improve efficiency of the BAFF but so far nothing is working so can understand angler's anguish.

P de Joux responded that he was happy to have had this discussion and was pleased to hear RDR and F&G are doing something about it. He offered the SAA assistance to be part of the process where they could. Chairman advised that he and CSI staff had met with RDR that afternoon to discuss a proposal put forward by RDR but there were concerns from CSI on this proposal and CSI staff felt further work needed to be done.

S Gerard queried who was at the meeting and why wasn't he invited. It was explained that it was a technical meeting with the Council staff and the CSI Chairman was asked to attend for his knowledge and experience with fish barriers.

### **16-027 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 21 April 2016**

Resolved (Isbister/McLauchlan)

16-024

**THAT THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF 21 APRIL 2016 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.**

### **16-028 BUDGET AND FINANCE:**

028.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing

Resolved (Hall/Growcott)

16-025

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE EXPENSE LISTINGS FOR APRIL AND MAY 2016 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$96,958.36 AND \$390,548.34, RESPECTIVELY.**

### **16-029 INTRODUCTION OF RICHARD COSGROVE, SOUTH ISLAND COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR:**

029.1 Chairman introduced Richard Cosgrove, South Island Communications Advisor to the Council. Richard passed on to Council his background and previous employment and experience in the communications field.

### **16-030 OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:**

018.1 Activity Reports & Operations Reports (7.1)

Staff responded to general queries from Councillors related to topics reported in their activities and operations reports. Topics included spawning counts, fish migration day, Waitaki salmon enhancement, Avimore spawning channel work, and Plan Change 6A.

Chief Executive advised that ECan Commissioners have expressed an interest in meeting with CSI as they recognise that there has been little Council-to-Council contact and CSI have a different view and approach on issues. It was suggested that CSI Councillors may need a workshop prior to this meeting to develop a better understanding about stock water transfer and consequences of irrigation schemes.



## 16-031 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:

### 031.1 2015 Regional Fish and Game Council Election (8.3)

The following recommendations from the returning officer's report were discussed and Council came forward with the following feedback to go the NZ Council.

#### Electionz.com suggestion:

(2) *To increase participation, allow all licence holders to vote in the election as of right or allow registration up to the close of voting date.*

#### CSI Response:

1. It was noted that allowing all licence holders to vote would require a change in legislation.
2. CSI believe that the Electoral Roll should be closed before the candidates are announced and that registration to stand for Council be closed the same day as the Electoral Roll closes.
3. CSI believe anglers and hunters should only be able to vote in the region they purchased their licence in.

Rationale: It was noted that in the last election when the electoral roll remained open after candidates were announced that campaigns arose to encourage registered voters in regions without an election to change their registration to a region that was having an election with the view to oppose or support a particular candidate.

#### Electionz.com suggestion:

(5) *Remove the option for candidates to submit their candidate profiles in handwritten or pdf format. Insisting on MS Word document format supply will reduce processing times and potential errors in the profile booklet. Consider using photos along with statements.*

#### CSI Response:

1. CSI did not support that profiles cannot be provided in handwritten or pdf form. Not all persons have computers or computer skills so there should be no absolute requirement to provide their profiles in a particular form.
2. CSI Council felt there that there needs to be better definition and consistency as to the purpose of the Candidate profile and what it should contain.

Rationale: Anglers and hunters wishing to stand for F&G Councils come from a wide range of backgrounds. Therefore there should be no absolute requirement as to the form of submitting a candidate profile that could discourage anyone from standing. As a candidate "profile" the purpose and content needs to be better defined to distinguish whether for example it is a statement of a candidate's background i.e. a profile or a political statement.

Resolved (Hall/Isbister)

16-026

**THAT THE ABOVE RESPONSES OF CSIFGC ON THE REGIONAL FISH AND GAME COUNCIL ELECTIONS BE PROVIDED TO NZ COUNCIL FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.**



## 16-032 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

032.1 Content of 'Angler's Newsletter from Fish and Game NZ' on the Fish and Game Website  
CSI Council discussed the content of two opinion pieces in the latest edition of Reel Life (May 2016). Whilst it was accepted that these are the opinions of individual persons they appear under the heading "Reel Life-The anglers newsletter from Fish & Game NZ". Therefore it was felt that it could give the impression that the content is sanctioned by F&G when it is readily apparent that the contributions haven't been 'fact-checked' and abusive language was used under the guise of Fish & Game opinion.

One contribution, Creasy's Column, was considered to be particularly offensive when it stated:

*"...Wellington's south coast has suffered an invasion of these human blowflies, these maggoty oiks, who infest and despoil our coastline and our national parks. Their habits are disgusting. They relieve themselves wherever they happen to park. They add nothing to our economy and despoil our countryside. It is no accident that the vehicles they travel in are as obscene as their occupants and are mainly purveyed by Australians, a nation of the coarse and unrefined."*

Further concern was expressed at another contributor's column (NZFFA's President, David Haynes) where clearly the figures and numbers used were incorrect.

It was felt that as a professional organisation the content of contributed opinion pieces sent to our anglers and hunters and placed on our Fish and Game website should be closely monitored for appropriateness, correctness, and format.

**Resolved (Rooney/Hall)**

**16-027**

**THAT CSI COUNCIL REQUEST THAT NZ COUNCIL REVIEW THE EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTION TO E-ZINES, SENT TO ANGLERS AND HUNTERS, FOR APPROPRIATENESS, CORRECTNESS, AND FORMAT.**

## 16-033: NZ COUNCIL MATTERS:

D Isbister provided a verbal report on NZC meeting held in Wellington in June. Topics included: guides licence, standing orders, angler and hunter participation, ad campaign, captive-bred mallards, limiting methods of harvesting gamebirds, used shotgun shells, limit on catch and release, discontinuing the exemption for sub-gauges, Rainbow Station sale, perception of land occupiers using lead.

D Isbister advised that he would like to stand down from the NZ Council and suggested M Hall be nominated to replace him as the NZ Council representative.

**Resolved (Isbister/Growcott)**

**16-028**

**THAT M HALL SHALL BE APPOINTED THE CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND MEMBER ON THE NEW ZEALAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, REPLACING DANIEL ISBISTER.**



**16-034: GENERAL BUSINESS:**

034.1 Council Vacancy (SG)

S Gerard advised that he understood G Hader had resigned as a CSI Councillor and that S Bannister would be interested in stepping into that place.

Chairman responded that CSI has not been formally notified by the Minister that G Hadler has resigned, or if he has, what the Minister's response was.

Meeting closed: 10:30 pm.

Next Council Meeting – 18 August 2016 – 7 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



Date \_\_\_\_\_

