

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY HAWKE'S BAY FISH AND GAME
COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE ON**

TUESDAY 8 MARCH 2022 AT 6:00PM

PRESENT:

Councillors Bates (Chairman), Duley, Lumsden, Bowcock, Mackay, Newton, Slavin
(Callum), Slavin (Blair), Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jesse Friedlander (Regional Manager)

1 Welcome (6.00 PM)

Cr. Bates welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed those in attendance that the meeting would be audio-recorded.

2 Apologies

Apologies received from Cr. Niblett

3 Conflict of Interest Register

Cr. Newton declared an interest as a director of the National Trout Centre.

4 Feedback on Draft Fish and Game Structure Review Report

Council discussed the draft report and the need or otherwise for amalgamation of regions.

Concern was voiced over the lack of tangible benefits of amalgamating regions and the lack of information provided on the financial implications of amalgamations.

Councillors were split on whether there was a need to amalgamate with another region. As the process has started and there will likely be structural change within the organisation, we should provide constructive feedback and shape the outcome as best we can for our licenceholders.

Clarification that the Structure Review Team are only requesting feedback on their report and not other matters such as local representation which were outside the TOR provided to them.

Concern was expressed regarding a potential loss of local people who are connected to local issues.

Council would like the Game Farm to be maintained in Fish and Game ownership and used for the benefit of local licenceholders.

Cr. Lumsden would like to see the results of the Resource Allocation Project. Agreement that there is a lack of detail in the report and we are being asked to make decisions without all the information.

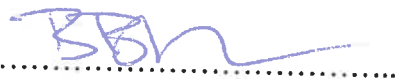
More staff and expertise in specific areas (e.g RMA) will benefit Hawke's Bay and is a potential positive of amalgamating.

Cr. Duley stated that there hadn't been discussion on the report at NZC yet, however there is a general view that the structural change will go through and Fish and Game should make it fit their requirements as best as we can in the interest of licenceholders.

General agreement that of the amalgamation options presented, the option preferred by the Structure Review Team is the most sensible and goes some way towards accounting for income disparities between regions.

Councillors discussed the proposed boundary change. Climatically it would be more logical to change the boundary to form an East Coast region, however This leaves an issue of what to do with Taranaki which is a grant receiving region and so the option of amalgamating the Lower North Island regions may make more financial sense.

The Chair and Manager will draft feedback on the report and send it out to Council to be reviewed. Final feedback will be provided to the Structure Review Team prior to the 17th March deadline.



Chairman Bruce Bates



Date