

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory Committee held in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 28 January 2015 commencing at 8.50 am.

Present:

- Cr Sam Neill (Chairperson)
- Cr Graeme Bell
- Cr Doug Brown
- Cr Louise Croot MNZM
- Cr Michael Deaker
- Cr Gary Kelliher
- Cr Trevor Kempton
- Cr Gretchen Robertson
- Cr Bryan Scott
- Cr David Shepherd
- Cr Stephen Woodhead

Apologies:

Cr Gerrard Eckhoff
The apology was accepted on the motion of Crs Shepherd and Bell.

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker
- Wayne Scott
- Jeff Donaldson
- Fraser McRae
- Gavin Palmer
- Matt Hickey
- Peter Taylor
- Janet Favel

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2014, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Croot and Brown.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2014/2053 **Biosecurity and RMA Monitoring Report. DEMO, 13/1/15**

The report detailed water, air, pest, and contaminated site environmental monitoring and incidents for the period 18 October to 31 December 2014.

Rabbits – Mr Donaldson commented that the current fine warm weather conditions and lack of grass growth provided ideal conditions for both oat poisoning and rabbit breeding. There was concern that uncontrolled roadside vegetation provided cover for rabbits. Mr Donaldson explained that councils were required to comply with the Pest Management Strategy (PMS), and if a complaint was received relating to this issue, it would be followed up with the council concerned.

Nassella Tussock – Mr Donaldson noted that *Nassella* had been identified at a North Otago site. It was growing in one very small area, was not spread by wind, and was to be controlled by the landholder.

Wallabies – the current small number of wallabies was noted, and the point at which the animal would be considered a major pest control issue. Mr Donaldson noted that an eradication policy was included in the PMS. In discussing the issue Councillors considered that more staff resource should be put into addressing the wallaby situation, commenting that action needed to be taken now, not in 10 years' time when it was too late. It was suggested that a report be prepared on wallaby control in Otago.

Water metering – it was noted that water metering for takes greater than 20ℓ/sec was due in November. Mr McRae was to advise the due date for metering for smaller takes, and it was noted that a reminder needed to be sent to permit holders.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Deaker seconded

That a report be prepared on wallaby control in Otago with reference to any learning from ECan, and that provision for the work be included in the Annual Plan.

Motion carried

Cr Kempton moved
Cr Robertson seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 2
2015/0609

Consent processing, consent administration and Building Control Authority update. RMPP and MC, 14/1/15

The report detailed consent processing, consent administration and building control authority activity for the period 10 November 2014 to 9 January 2015.

Concern was expressed at the number of consent applications which had been on hold for some time. Mr McRae advised that in some cases applicants had changed their minds about what they wanted to do, and/or more information had been requested. The applicants had been contacted to ascertain if they wanted to continue with their application.

Cr Woodhead moved
Cr Croot seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 3
2015/0577

RMA, Biosecurity Act and Building Act Enforcement Activities. DPPRM, 8/1/15

The report detailed Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993 and Building Act 2004 enforcement activities undertaken by the Otago Regional Council for the period 8 November 2014 to 8 January 2015.

Cr Croot moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

Item 4
2015/0614

Appointment of Hearing Commissioners. DPPRM, 14/1/15

The report listed hearing commissioners appointed for the period to 14 January 2015.

Cr Neill moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 9.07 am.



Chairperson