

Minutes of the Regional Council Meeting held in Council Meeting Room One, Environment Bay of Plenty, 5 Quay Street, Whakatane on Tuesday, 1 June 2010 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Present:

Chairman: Chairman J Cronin

Deputy Chairman: P Sherry

Councillors: R Bennett, T Eru, R Ford, J Mansell, T Marr, J Nees, I Noble, N Oppatt, K Summerhays, A von Dadelszen, M Whitaker

In Attendance: B Bayfield (Chief Executive), M Macleod (Group Manager Strategic Development), B Trott (Group Manager Corporate Services), K Tarboton (Group Manager Rivers and Drainage), W Murray (Group Manager Land Management), E Grogan (Group Manager Water Management), J Warnes (Finance Manager), S Lamb (Acting Strategic Support Manager), A Dixon (Asset Accountant), L Hastie (Management Accountant), R Feist (Senior Planner), T Briggs (Planner), L Butt (Committee Secretary)

Attendance in part: G Maloney (Transport Manager), R Donald (Water Science and Support Manager)

Apologies: Councillors Oppatt, Marr and Ford for lateness

1 Minutes

1.1 Regional Council Meeting - 17 and 18 May 2010

Correction:

Include a comment in item 2.1 – submission from TCC that:

In answer to a question of clarification about the infrastructure fund Mayor Crosby said interest free loans would be an appropriate form of funding support.

Resolved

That the Regional Council:

- 1 Confirms the minutes of the Council meeting held on 17 and 18 May 2010 as a true and correct record with the foregoing correction.

Cronin/Sherry
CARRIED

Attendance:

Councillors Oppatt and Marr attended the meeting at 9.34 am.

2 Reports**2.1 Financial Statements for the period ending 30 April 2010**

Brian Trott presented the report that gave an overview of the financial results for the ten months ending 30 April 2010. He estimated the position at year end to be a \$3.5 million surplus.

Attendance:

Councillor Ford attended the meeting at 9.44 am.

Members sought and received clarification on a number of matters outlined in the report.

Resolved

That the Regional Council:

- 1 Receives the report, '*Financial Statements for the period ending 30 April 2010*'.**

**Cronin/Sherry
CARRIED**

2.2 Annual Plan 2010/2011 Deliberations

Refer tabled documents 1, 2 and 3.

The Chief Executive introduced the report noting the decisions Council makes during its deliberations will provide staff with the direction needed to prepare the final 2010/2011 annual plan.

Members sought and received clarification on a number of the recommendations and submissions points outlined in the reports. It was agreed to amend the recommendation for submission point 37-7 to "decline", and the recommendation for submission point 48-3 to "no decision on this funding until the next 10 year plan". Council also agreed to a number of minor amendments to the wording of some responses.

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.30 am and reconvened at 10.45 am.

With the amendments above included, the consensus of Council agreed to adopt the recommendations in both the agenda report and the staff recommendations report.

Councillors requested that the letters sent to each submitter advising the outcome of their submission be reviewed and checked by committee chairs.

Resolved

That the Regional Council:

- 1 Receives the report, '*Annual Plan 2010/2011 Deliberations*'.**

- 2 **Confirms that the significance of the decision has been assessed as MEDIUM, and under Section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) confirms that in light of the level of significance of the decision it does not require: (a) Further identification and assessment of different options under section 77 LGA; (b) Further investigation or consideration of community views under section 78 LGA; (c) Any further written record of the manner in which section 77 and section 78 matters have been addressed.**
- 3 **Adopts the staff recommendations on submission points outlined in this report and the staff recommendations report as amended.**

**Cronin/Nees
CARRIED**

2.3 **Deliberations for Draft Annual Plan - Section 36 Resource Management Act Charges Policy 2010/2011**

The Chief Executive introduced the report that discussed the proposed Resource Management Act (Section 36) charges. Members noted that the proposed increases to charges are necessary to recognise inflation.

Members sought and received clarification on a number of matters outlined in the reports. The Chief Executive undertook to report back to Council on the different cost recovery targets adopted by other local authorities.

Resolved

That the Regional Council:

- 1 **Receives the report, '*Deliberations for Draft Annual Plan - Section 36 Resource Management Act Charges Policy 2010/2011*'.**
- 2 **Confirms that the significance of the decision has been assessed as LOW, and under Section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) confirms that in light of the level of significance of the decision it does not require: (a) Further identification and assessment of different options under section 77 LGA; (b) Further investigation or consideration of community views under section 78 LGA; (c) Any further written record of the manner in which section 77 and section 78 matters have been addressed.**
- 3 **Adopts the staff recommendations on submission points outlined in this report and the staff recommendations report.**

**Mansell/Bennett
CARRIED**

2.4 **Deliberations for Draft Annual Plan - Proposed Change to Port Charges**

Council were advised that the proposed 3.4% increase is necessary to recognise inflation. Members sought and received clarification on a number of matters outlined in the reports, and agreed to amend the response to submitter 39-1 and others by clarifying and expanding the last sentence.

Resolved

That the Regional Council:

- 1 **Receives the report, 'Deliberations for Draft Annual Plan - Proposed Change to Port Charges'.**
- 2 **Confirms that the significance of the decision has been assessed as LOW, and under Section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) confirms that in light of the level of significance of the decision it does not require: (a) Further identification and assessment of different options under section 77 LGA; (b) Further investigation or consideration of community views under section 78 LGA; (c) Any further written record of the manner in which section 77 and section 78 matters have been addressed.**
- 3 **Adopts the staff recommendations on submission points outlined in this report and the staff recommendations report as amended.**

**Cronin/Mansell
CARRIED**

2.5 **Draft Annual Plan 2010/2011 Efficiency Review Funding Requirements**

Brian Trott (Group Manager Corporate Services) presented the report that outlined the resourcing and funding requirements for three efficiency initiatives previously identified by the Finance and Governance Committee.

It was the general consensus of Council that it favour an internal review of the governance operations and support, and that the benchmarking initiative be advanced noting that buy-in was vital from the highest level of other Council's to progress the benchmarking project. As such it was agreed the Chairman take a paper on benchmarking to the RAC forum.

Resolved

That the Regional Council:

- 1 **Receives the report, 'Draft Annual Plan 2010/2011 Efficiency Review Funding Requirements'.**
- 2 **Confirms that the significance of the decision has been assessed as LOW, and under Section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) confirms that in light of the level of significance of the decision it does not require: (a) Further identification and assessment of different options under section 77 LGA; (b) Further investigation or consideration of community views under section 78 LGA; (c) Any further written record of the manner in which section 77 and section 78 matters have been addressed.**
- 3 **Agrees to undertake a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of governance operations and support, advance work on benchmarking with other councils, and to develop a prioritisation process to assist direct funding decisions within existing budgets.**
- 4 **Requests that the Chairman take a paper on benchmarking to RAC at the next opportunity in order to advance benchmarking in the sector.**
- 5 **Agrees to advance work on benchmarking with other Councils and relevant organisations.**

**Cronin/Sherry
CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 11.52 am.