

# 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 11 November 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Present: S Bannister L Koevoet  
P Centofanti D Rattray  
J DeWit C Stanger  
S Gerard J Henry (Ngai Tahu)

In Attendance:

*F&G Staff:* J Graybill, B Dolan.

Jay Graybill, Chief Executive, called the meeting to order as specified in Standing Orders as this was the first meeting of the Council following a triennial Council election.

## 21-071 APOLOGIES:

N Niles.

Resolved (Rattray/Gerard)

21-071

THAT THE APOLOGY OF N NILES BE ACCEPTED.

## 21-072 ELECTIONS AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

### 072.1 Election of Chairman

Chief Executive called for nominations for the position of Chairman.

S Bannister - Nominated - S Gerard/L Koevoet

No further nominations for Chairman were forthcoming. S Bannister was **declared** elected to the position of Chairman unopposed and he assumed the Chair.

### 072.2 Election of NZ Fish and Game Council Appointee

The Chair called for nominations for the position of NZC appointee.

L Koevoet - Nominated - Gerard/DeWit

No further nominations for NZC appointee were forthcoming. L Koevoet was **declared** elected to the position of NZC appointee unopposed.

### 072.3 Election of Executive Committee

The Chair called for nominations for members to the Executive Committee.

Incumbents S Gerard and L Koevoet were **declared** elected to the Executive Committee along with S Bannister (Chair ex officio).

### 072.4 Salmon By-Catch Committee

The Chair called for nominations for members to the Salmon By-Catch Committee

Incumbent L Koevoet was **declared** elected to the Salmon By-Catch Committee. It was **AGREED** M Webb continue as staff representative.

## **21-073 HEALTH & SAFETY:**

Chief Executive pointed out exit points of the building and assembly point for evacuation of the premises in case of an emergency. He advised that the meeting would be held under Covid Alert Level 2 conditions that included wearing masks throughout the meeting and maintaining 1-m separation between members and 2-m separation between members and the public.

## **21-074 AUTHENTICATED AND SIGNED MINUTES – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Chief Executive advised that in accordance with Standing Order 3.12.5 the minutes of the last meeting of Council before the election were authenticated and signed by the relevant Chair.

## **21-075 BUDGET AND FINANCE:**

### **075.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing (7.1)**

Chief Executive explained to the new Council how to interpret the P& L Report, the Income Report and the Schedule of Payments provided in the Budget and Finance Report.

CE advised that it is two months into the financial year so the comparative expenditure-to-date should be about 17%. The year-to-date total expenditure as a percent of total budget is 18%. He added that it was too early in the financial year to make a meaningful assessment of fish licence income.

**Resolved (Koevoet/Gerard)**

**21-072**

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE SCHEDULES OF PAYMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2021 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$72,203.47 AND \$78,417.32, RESPECTIVELY.**

## **21-076 DOC/ECAN LIAISON:**

CE advised that Council meeting papers and an invitation to attend had been sent to representatives of ECan and DoC. Apologies were received from Elizabeth McKenzie and Peter Scott, ECan Councillors. Elizabeth McKenzie had provided a written update on O Tu Wharekai that she asked be conveyed to Council. That general update included that ECan Chair had met with senior staff from MfE, Crown Lands, DoC, Ashburton District Council and Runanga about potential options that can be offered to halt the eutrophication problem at O Tu Wharekai. There was unanimous acknowledgement that the problem is agriculture and 66% reduction in N and P is required. Mitigation (deintensification) and compensation were discussed. ECan asked the government for urgent help.

CE updated Council on the issues at Lakes Clearwater and Heron that he and A Christensen had presented to ECan in their deputation. It appeared that ECan was recognising the urgency for action to prevent those lakes from “tipping” as they have notified the Government. John Henry advised that he is expecting to have an update on actions at O Tu Wharekai before Christmas. It was **AGREED** to have this as an agenda item at the February 2022 meeting to keep Council informed.

Handwritten signature or initials in the bottom right corner.

## **21-077 RECEIVE OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:**

CE advised that Operations and Staff Reports were provided to Councillors to keep them informed of progress on operational matters. He advised that if Councillors have questions, they are welcome to email them to him, and he will have them addressed.

**Resolved (Rattray/Gerard)**

**21-073**

**THAT THE OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS OF 11 NOVEMBER 2021 BE RECEIVED.**

## **21-078 CHAIR'S REPORT:**

J DeWit asked that the order of the agenda be changed to allow for the discussion on Lake Opuha Concerns to be held with the media present.

**Resolved (DeWit/Centofanti)**

**21-074**

**THAT THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA BE CHANGED SO THAT ITEM 8.7 'LAKE OPUHA CONCERNS' OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT CAN BE DISCUSSED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEDIA PRESENT.**

## **21-079 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:**

### **079.1 Lake Opuha Concerns (8.7 from Chief Executive's Report)**

CE spoke to his report that it was brought to his attention that Dr Nick Wall (a Timaru chemist) considers that there may be contamination of the sediments in the bottom of Lake Opuha. CE advised that he was invited to an informal briefing where Dr Wall discussed general information that indicated chemical and heavy metal contamination from his assessment of sediment samples taken from the bottom of Lake Opuha earlier in the year. CE noted the results appeared to be in raw form with no interpretation and no documentation was provided on how the samples were collected or the chain of custody before the samples were analysed.

CE stressed that CSI Fish and Game does not have legislative responsibility for water quality or sediment contamination and is not able to investigate such matters, but it could refer such matters to ECan who does have a role "to monitor and investigate". He added if the claims were valid, they would be concerning.

L Koevoet indicated he wanted to see more detail as it was worrying this information has come up without following due process in regard to notifying all affected parties. Chair added that the information received demands an independent, legally sound process of investigation.

L Koevoet and J Henry added that a very comprehensive report on possible contamination at Opuha was released in 2015 with protocols for future actions, which all parties agreed to abide by. J Henry noted that the 2015 report included results from independent labs and independent assessment of results. They both felt that if further information is forthcoming those protocols should apply.

J DeWit felt that CSI should direct their concerns to both ECan and the Ministry for the Environment. L Koevoet and J Henry cautioned against this approach. They felt it was more appropriate to write only to ECan in the first instance.

**THAT THE CSI CHAIR WRITE TO ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO REVIEW THE RECENT FINDINGS OF POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION IN LAKE OPUHA SEDIMENTS WITH A COPY TO BE SENT TO THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.**

L Koevoet and D Rattray asked that their votes against the motion be recorded.

## **21-078 CHAIR'S REPORT (continued):**

### 078.1 CE's Annual Performance Review (7.2)

Council's previous Chair (A Simpson) in his Chair's Report to Council advised that he and M Hall had completed the Chief Executive's annual performance review and the CE scored 23/25 in the five categories in which his performance is rated. He added this reflects a very strong performance in the view of both reviewers, particularly in support to Council, staff wellbeing, and financial performance.

S Gerard said he wanted to see a copy of the review. He felt it didn't use the right criteria and didn't reflect achieving strategic goals. L Koevoet reminded him of the detailed report that the Chair presented to the September 2021 meeting where it quite accurately and clearly showed that the CE has headed a well-run organisation. He added if you look at the OWP and what was achieved by Council it truly reflects what CSI staff have achieved under his leadership as CE. The evidence supports good leadership with no evidence against.

S Gerard agreed that there is big list of achievements but felt it didn't reflect the strategic goals put in place by Council. He added the CE had not done an inventory of our resources, had not sought views of our stakeholders and has not restored the salmon fishery.

CE responded that he has consistently asked Council for input to the OWP. He has requested that background and rationale be provided and if an objective is to be added to the OWP then Council should decide what objectives to be taken off. He advised that he and Staff are currently working on the 2021/22 OWP approved by Council that extends to 31 August 2022. He added that each of the "planned activities" in the Strategic Plan have an objective related to it in the approved OWP. S Gerard acknowledged that CE was correct in that Council did sign off the OWP and the CE has carried out the OWP.

### 078.2 Proposal for Amalgamation of Regions (7.3)

Council's previous Chair (A Simpson) in his Chair's Report to Council advised that the NZC or the Implementation Group (it was unclear which) had circulated unsigned, undated Terms of Reference (TOR) for a "Fish and Game Amalgamation Report" to engage consultants to advise and recommend a future regional structure for Fish and Game Councils i.e., boundaries etc, that is fit for purpose for the next 20 years.

CE noted that he will advise NZC of CSI's new Chair and NZC appointee for upcoming meetings and discussions on this topic.

Moved (Ratray/Koevoet)

That the Chair's Report be received.

The motion was put and declared **LOST. 2 for, 4 against**

## **21-079 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT (Continued):**

### 079.2 Councillor Information for New Council (8.1)

CE explained the contents of the Councillor Manual provided to all Councillors. Councillors were asked to complete the Declaration of Interests form and to sign the Declaration – Conflicts of Interest form and to return both at the next meeting of Council.

Councillors were asked what contact details they wished listed on the website. It was **AGREED** that their name, sub-region and email addresses be put onto the CSI page of the Fish and Game website.

### 079.3 Meeting Dates for the 2022 Council Year (8.2)

CE explained that the NZC had set and advised their meeting dates for 2022. He recommended that CSI set its dates to allow timely advice to the NZC on the Anglers Notice, Game Gazette, budgets, OWPs and the licence fee recommendation.

**Resolved (Centofanti/Stanger)**

**21-076**

**THAT THE CSI MEETINGS FOR 2022 WILL BE HELD ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:**

- **3 FEBRUARY - CSI COUNCIL MEETING INCLUDING APPROVE GAME REGULATIONS**
- **17 MARCH - CSI COUNCIL MEETING INCLUDING APPROVE OWP & BUDGET FOR SUBMITTING TO MANAGERS/CES FOR RECOMMENDATION TO NZC**
- **19 MAY - CSI COUNCIL MEETING INCLUDING APPROVE ANGLING REGULATIONS AND LICENCE FEE RECOMMENDATION TO SUBMIT TO NZC**
- **21 JULY - CSI COUNCIL MEETING**
- **15 SEPTEMBER - CSI COUNCIL MEETING**
- **17 NOVEMBER - CSI COUNCIL MEETING**

### 079.4 Draft Financial Statements (8.3)

**Resolved (Centofanti/Stanger)**

**21-077**

**THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR.**

### 079.5 Governance Training for Members (8.4)

CE advised that Council resolved at its September 2021 meeting to approve funding for four members to take the "Governance Essentials" course offered by the Institute of Directors during 2022. Over the discussion it was felt that all current Councillors could benefit from this Governance training and that attending the face-to-face training session would be more beneficial. It was suggested that two groups of four members would be a better environment for members to absorb the information. CE undertook to get information about the course.

**THAT COUNCIL MEMBERS UNDERTAKE THE “GOVERNANCE ESSENTIALS” COURSE OFFERED BY THE INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS DURING 2022 IN TWO SEPARATE GROUPS OF FOUR MEMBERS EACH.**

079.6 Renewal of Hydro Station Consents in the Waitaki Catchment (8.6)

CE provided a staff report updating Council on the upcoming renewal of Meridian Energy and Genesis Energy current operational consents to take and use water throughout the Waitaki Catchment for renewable energy generation.

The report stated that CSI Staff expect to provide Council with a draft agreement with Genesis to the first Council meeting of the new year in 2022 for consideration. A draft agreement with Meridian will be brought to Council at a later time. The report noted that staff have made considerable progress in the development of agreements seeking to position CSI to continue with research and enhancement programmes in the catchment. This includes programmes related to both natural waterbodies and hydro-canal systems.

L Koevoet expressed concern at the dollar amount CSI is receiving from these organisations and felt it should be more.

079.7 Risk Register (8.8)

CE provided the latest Risk Register. S Bannister felt that the canal fishery could be added and **AGREED** to provide the CE with wording to add to the register.

**21-080 GENERAL BUSINESS:**

080.1 Miscellaneous

S Gerard asked if Council could discuss his email of topics that he had asked to be added to the agenda. CE repeated the points made in his email reply to all councillors with his reasons for not including the email without the benefit of a Chair to confer with.

S Gerard responded that S Bannister had helped him with the items, and it wasn't fair to not put it on the agenda. CE responded that now that Council has an elected Chair, he was in a position to work with him to the address issues outlined in the email.

CE suggested that the meeting be closed and that a workshop be scheduled on the topics raised. The Chair agreed and saw a compromise that the meeting be closed in favour of a workshop.

Chair asked that Council members respond to emails in the future and to leave the inter-personal comments aside. L Koevoet responded that some of the emails he receives are of ill-respect to either him or others within this Council. He stated he would not entertain entering debates over emails on any negative messages that contain some of the vitriol that has been in them. J Henry supported L Koevoet on this view.

Next Council meeting to adopt the audited Performance Report and Annual Public Meeting – 9 December 2021.

Meeting Closed at 9:40 pm.

Signed 

Date 9/12/2021

