A. ATTENDANCE –

Present were Mr. W.H. Pickering (Chairperson), Cr. G.P. Gianotti (Member), Cr. P. Lynch (Member), Mr. R.W. Clark (Trust Secretary), Mr. B.E. Leach (Trust Engineer), Mr. I. Baker (Invitee – DNR & W, Ingham Office) and Mr. S. Hall (Trust Works Manager).

B. MINUTES -

Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on 5th March, 2009 and Special Meeting held on 3rd April, 2009.

Resolved – That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 5th March, 2009 and Special Meeting held on 3rd April, 2009 be approved as a correct record of proceedings.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)

C. WORKS REPORT –

Consideration of Trust Engineer’s March, 2009 report of works performed to date and activities in progress.

Resolved – That the Report be received and noted.

That the Trust engage WBM to carry out a modelling exercise through Cordelia for further consideration by the Trust.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti - Carried)

D. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT -

1. The Secretary submitted accounts for payment as hereunder and statements of receipts and disbursements for the period up to 9th April, 2009:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>Cheque</th>
<th>$350.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EFT</td>
<td></td>
<td>$14,891.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,241.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resolved – That payment of accounts as submitted be approved and the statement of receipts and disbursements be received and noted.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)
E. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. GRANT ADAMS, Cordelia, 24th February, 2009, advising that during the February, 2009 flood events his levee bank at the rear of his house at 10 Eddleston Drive, Cordelia was washed away causing the river to rush through his yard and wash away fill from his new raised shed, his driveway roadbase and damage his fence. The riverbank continues to cave in and big cracks have appeared about 25 metres long. Requesting the Trust to inspect his property as the cracks are a couple of metres from his fence and caving in more every time it rains.

Resolved – That the location has been included in the new damage works assessment report and it be inspected together with other Cordelia properties at the time of other inspections in the Lower Herbert area on Tuesday the 28th April, 2009.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

2. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER, Brisbane, 11th March, 2009, advising that Councillors Geoffrey Gianotti and Patrick Lynch can be paid for the costs incurred in travelling to and from Trust Meetings, so long as the conditions outlined in the Ministerial Directive No. 06/07 September 2007 titled “Motor Vehicle Allowances” are met, however the details of the policy applicable for remunerating Councillor Trust members for their attendance at Trust Meetings and for special assignment fees is still to be settled. Department Officers will advise the Trust as soon as practicable after the cessation of the Government’s caretaker period to advise further on this issue once a resolution is reached.
(101/0003)

Resolved – That the Trust members be paid their travelling allowance and the Trust Secretary request the payments of the remaining amounts be expedited by the Department of Natural Resources & Water.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti – Carried)

3. FUDRIGA BROTHERS, Halifax, 13th March, 2009, advising the Trust that since the completion of the Halifax Levee, they have recorded increasing water levels and velocities, culminating in the January / February Flood when record flood levels were recorded in 60 years on their property. Requesting the Trust to give this matter its urgent attention as WBM’s brochure # 5 indicated that their place of residence on Taylors Beach Road would have received a reduction in flood levels.
(103/0020)

Resolved – That the Trust meet with the landholders on Tuesday the 28th April, 2009.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

4. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER, Cairns, 18th March, 2009, advising that the application for temporary road closure on Costa’s Road and Neames Inlet Road described as Lot 1 and 2 on Drawing TSV2008-23 has been withdrawn by the applicant and the case is now closed.
(104/0001)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

5. LOWER HERBERT WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, Ingham, 27th March, 2009, seeking the Hinchinbrook Shire Council’s permission to construct a low level structure with flood gates and 2 pumps in the road reserve between Mario Porta’s farm and David Carr’s farm at Catherina Creek Road which would be placed 3 metres upstream of the existing 2/1200x600 reinforced concrete box culverts which is in a section of road currently not on the Council’s Road Register. The purpose of this low level pumping structure is to remove tailwater as it arrives in the bottom section of the Forrest Home drainage system therefore alleviating inundation of sugar cane crops in a timely manner. The objective the Authority is to remove water from cane paddocks to the drainage systems in 3 days. This pumping system will not impact on the Catherina Creek flood mitigation gate system, as it will only operate until the water level reaches 4.6 AHD and when water is pumped into Catherina Creek, it will flow to the flood mitigation gates and once there is a level difference, the gates will automatically open and let this water into the river. Mr. Ian Baker has had discussions with the Authority and once permission for the location has been obtained, they intend to proceed with obtaining necessary permit/s.
(032/0008)
Resolved – That the Trust believes there is insufficient detail provided in the proposal and is unable to assess what impact it would have on Trust assets including the Alligator Ponds drain downstream of the coffin area and Catherina Creek banks including the floodgate.  
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

6. INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND STATUTORY AUTHORITIES, Brisbane, 31st March, 2009, advising that the Premier, The Hon. Anna Bligh MP announced a major public sector reform program in March, 2008, including the Review of Queensland Government Boards, Committees and Statutory Authorities. The purpose of the review of government bodies was to reduce bureaucracy and unnecessary red tape; improve the overall efficiency of government bodies; and maintain the integrity and security of necessary regulatory functions. The Review has been delivered in two stage – Part A considered the current framework of government bodies and recommended a governance decision-making model for improving the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the roles and functions currently performed by government bodies. Part B of the Review finalises the governance decision-making framework and recommends a process for the establishment of any future government bodies including detailed decision making tools. The Government is reviewing the report and is finalising its response. Forwarding a copy of Part B, Brokering Balance: A Public Interest Map for Queensland Government Bodies – An Independent Review of Queensland Government Boards, Committees and Statutory Authorities. 

Resolved – That it be noted that information was provided to the State Council of River Trusts Association in support of the retention of River Trusts.  
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

7. RIPPLE CREEK & CATHERINA CREEK FLOOD GATES.  
Consideration of Trust Engineer’s correspondence to Lower Herbert Water Management Authority and Canegrowers Herbert River advising that both sets of flood gates are now operating in the fully automatic state and are performing in accordance with the intent of the design. Further advising that the Trust is now in a position to undertake discussion with affected / benefitted landowners and their representative groups in order to determine and set parameters regarding the operation of the gates. 

Resolved – That the stakeholders at Ripple and Catherina Creeks be provided with a copy of the RTA Technical Report and separate meetings be arranged on Tuesday 28th April, 2009 at 10.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. with each stakeholder group. 
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

Confirmation of the lodgement of the Form with the State Government indicating a potential need for the Trust to borrow up to $1,000,000 to undertake new capital works to restore watercourse banks from major flooding event February, 2009.  

Resolved – That the action in lodging the form be endorsed by the Trust and it be noted that lodgement does not commit the Trust to borrowing all or part of this indication.  
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

F. GENERAL MATTERS -

1. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER INVITEE – MR. IAN BAKER.  
Resolved - The Trust recorded the sterling service and support given to the Trust by Mr. Ian Baker from the Department of Natural Resources & Water, Ripple Creek and wished him all the best for the future.  
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Lynch – Carried)

2. CATTLE CREEK MANAGEMENT PLAN.  
Consideration was given to a verbal report from Cr. Geoffrey Gianotti regarding his recent attendance at a meeting to develop the Cattle Creek Management Plan for the wetland and concerns at what appears to be a lack of involvement by all of the appropriate stakeholders and addressing of all relevant issues.
Resolved – That the Trust express its concern to the Herbert River Catchment Group that the Management Plan development has not been comprehensive and involving of all of the relevant stakeholders and that the Management Plan cannot be developed without first doing a Hydrological Study and a copy of such letter be forwarded to Terrain NRM and the Hinchinbrook Shire Council.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

G. CONCLUSION – The meeting concluded at 2.30 p.m.

(Sgd) Mr. W.H. Pickering,
TRUST CHAIRPERSON