

HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 11TH JUNE, 2009

AT 9.00 A.M.



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) and Mr. S. Hall (Trust Works Manager).

B. MINUTES -

Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on 7th May, 2009.

Resolved – That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 7th May, 2009 be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti - Carried)

C. WORKS REPORT –

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

Consideration was also give to an engineering proposal dated 14th May, 2009 from Rockfield Technologies Australia Pty. Ltd. for manual operation pump modifications for the Ripple and Catherina Creek floodgates.

Resolved – That the Report be received and noted.

That the action of the Trust Engineer in commissioning Rockfield Technologies Australia Pty. Ltd. to proceed with the provision of option 2 a pair of single acting manual pumps be endorsed.

(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - 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 11th June, 2009:-

<u>General Fund</u> -	Cheque	\$ 152.40
	EFT	<u>\$37,607.81</u>
		<u>\$37,760.21</u>

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. HERBERT RIVER CANEGROWERS, Ingham, 1st May, 2009, referring to the Trust's correspondence dated 16th March, 2009 which went before a recent meeting of Canegrowers Directors and advising that whilst the Trust does not accept that the failure of the floodgate control system at Catherina and Ripple Creeks has led to regular episodes of crop inundation and economic loss, there is strong evidence to the contrary. Further advising that the recent actions by the Trust are nevertheless a positive development which they expect will lead to more appropriate arrangements for the long term management of the Trust's infrastructure that is very much relied upon by their Members in the Catherina Creek and Ripple Creek areas. (103/0015)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.

(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

2. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Cairns, 7th May, 2009, seeking the Trust's views and / or requirements in relation to an application received by the Department from **I.R. Craig** for Renewal of Special Lease 24/44421 (Lot 138 on CWL 3262), Parish of Garrawalt at Tarakan Road, Abergowrie. The proposed use is Primary Industry (Sugar Cane Growing).(101/0004)

Trust Engineer's Comment – This is a request for Trust's views regarding a proposed renewal of a Special Lease. The leased land is wholly planted to Sugar Cane. It is not thought that the Trust would have any interest in the proposed dealing. See attached plan

Resolved – That the Trust has no interest or requirement in the proposed dealing.

(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

3. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Charleville, 19th May, 2009, seeking the Trust's views and / or requirements in relation to an application received by the Department from **C. & R. Cavallo** for Renewal of Special Lease 24/4443 (Lot 183 on CWL 3203), Parish of Leach at Gibson's Road, Abergowrie. The proposed use is Sugar Cane Growing.(101/0004)

Trust Engineer's Comment – This is a request for Trust's views regarding the proposed renewal of a special lease over Lot 183 on CWL3203. The proposed use is sugar cane growing and it is noted the subject lot is wholly planted to cane. It is expected that the Trust would not have any interest in this dealing. See attached plan

Resolved – That the Trust has no interest or requirement in the proposed dealing.

(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

4. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 20th May, 2009, responding to the Trust's letter dated 20th April, 2009 seeking the Department's endorsement for the HRIT to pay its Local Government Councillor Members meeting fees for the period from March, 2008 to the present. Advising that the Department is currently investigating technical aspects of the remuneration approval process under the *River Improvement Trust Act 1940* and Regulation of which the issues are complex. Departmental officers need to consult with a number of government agencies to resolve the matter and it is expected that the Department's position will be finalised within the next few weeks. Further advising that any inconvenience caused by the delays in resolving this matter is regretted and the Trust's Councillor members should be assured that their contribution to the Trust is greatly appreciated. (101/0003)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted and the Councillors be remunerated for meeting fees.

(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

5. LOWER HERBERT WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, Ingham, 21st May, 2009, confirming a verbal request made at the Trust Special Meeting held on the 28th April, 2009 that the Trust will obtain a quote for the supply, installation and any ongoing costs associated with a telemetry monitoring system for the Ripple Creek and Catherina Creek gates and advising that the Directors will await the Trust's response in relation to the costs involved before proceeding further. (103/0015)

Resolved – That Rockfield Technologies Australia Pty. Ltd. be commissioned to provide an investigation of possibilities for a telemetry monitoring system for further consideration by the Trust.

(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

6. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 25th May, 2009, reminding that the Trust should submit its budget for 2009 / 2010 to the Manager, Water Industry Administration as soon as practicable after the 30th June, 2009 to enable the approval process to be finalised as quickly as possible.

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.

(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

7. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 27th May, 2009, advising that the amended budget for the 2008 / 2009 year as submitted by the Trust on the 13th May, 2009 was approved on the 27th May, 2009. This budget replaces the budget that was approved by the Chief Executive's delegate on the 1st August, 2008 and the superseded budget should be clearly marked as obsolete. Further advising that the Trust may now adopt the amended annual budget. (102/0001)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.

(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

8. STATE COUNCIL OF RIVER TRUSTS' QLD INC., 1st June, 2009, forwarding minutes of the Executive Meeting held on the 22nd May, 2009. See attached minutes

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.

(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

9. JOHN J. RUSSO, Abergowrie, 1st June, 2009, advising he owns property described as Lot 94 on CWL1943 and Lot 4 on RP745428 near Gowrie Creek and over the past years he has observed damage to the northern side of the creek. Approximately 15 to 20 years ago the Trust repaired the same area by bulldozing the sand and cleaning vegetation, however the sand has built back up on the southern side and vegetation is growing to a great height. Enclosing photos and a map of the area and advising that Mr. Terry Fenoglio has viewed the damage following the last flood and requesting the Trust to inspect the area with a view to repairing the damage as carried out previously. (103/0003)

Resolved – That the Trust advise Mr. Russo that repair works to Trust Assets in his property are included in its NDRRA work.

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.

(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

10. MAHONY & SONS, Halifax, 2nd June, 2009, requesting the Trust to advise what action it will take with regard to a concrete wall that is being constructed along Skene Avenue, Halifax and reminding the Trust that a bund wall 50 metres away from this new development was removed from their property by the Trust as it would allegedly have an adverse affect on Trust works undertaken and to adjoining properties. (101/0002)

Resolved – That the Trust inspect the wall and determine its position thereafter.

(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

11. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 2nd June, 2009, forwarding correspondence concerning the preparation and submission of the 2009 / 2010 Annual Works Program for approval under Section 10 (2) of the *River Improvement Trust Act 1940*. Requesting that the Annual Works Program be submitted to the State Council of River Trusts Queensland with a copy to the Department's regional officer by the 21st June, 2009.

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

12. DRAFT BUDGET 2009 / 2010.

Consideration of the draft 2009 / 2010 Budget.

See attached draft Budget.

Resolved – That the draft budget be further considered at the meeting on 2nd July, 2009.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

F. INSPECTIONS – Inspections were carried out at the following areas:-

- D. & P. Mombelli – Cnr. Four Mile Road and Halifax Road, Cordelia; and
- Various properties at Skene Avenue and Musgrave Street, Halifax.

G. CONCLUSION – The meeting concluded at 3.25 p.m.

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