

HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER, 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. T. Fenoglio (Trust Special Projects Officer).

B. MINUTES -

Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on 3rd September, 2009.

Resolved – That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 3rd September be approved.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)

C. WORKS REPORT –

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

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

Resolved – That the study group for the Lower Herbert Flood Study Project be comprised of the Trust Members, CSR, Canegrowers (2), Errol Coleman and the community (2).

That nominations from interested persons in the Lower Herbert area for the community representation be invited via public advertisement in the Herbert River Express.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

Resolved – That in relation to Rockfield's engineering works proposal dated 7th July, 2009 Task 1 "Provision of Monitoring and Maintenance Management" be proceeded with and Task 3 "PLC History Reporting System Design and Installation" be proceeded with subject to further discussions with Rockfield by the Trust Chair and Trust Engineer to identify requirements.
(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 1st October, 2009:-

<u>General Fund</u> -	Cheque	\$Nil
	EFT	\$79,689.48
		<u>\$79,689.48</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. HON. STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP, MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES & ENERGY & MINISTER FOR TRADE, Brisbane, 1st September, 2009, referring to the Trust letter to Premier Bligh dated 29th June, 2009 regarding Shire river and stream bank damage caused by Cyclone Ellie in February, 2009, and advising that the Office of the Premier referred the matter to the Minister. Advising that he has recently approved \$2,130,050 of assistance under the Queensland Disaster Relief & Recovery Arrangements for the repair of Trust assets, and while the Trust's request for special assistance may be for a worthy cause, it coincides with difficult financial times and the Queensland Government is unable to provide assistance of this magnitude. Encouraging the Trust to pursue other funding options available such as precepts from local authorities, State River Trust subsidies, and landowner contributions. (103/0020)

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

ANDREW CRIPPS, MEMBER FOR HINCHINBROOK, Ingham, received 11th September, 2009, forwarding copy of his letter received from The Hon. Stephen Robertson MP, Minister for Natural Resources, Mines & Energy & Minister for Trade regarding the non-approval of special assistance.

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

2. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 11th September, 2009, advising that the Trust's 2009 / 2010 annual budget was approved on the 8th September, 2009 and the Trust may now adopt the annual budget as provided for in Section 13(1) of the *River Improvement Trust Act 1940*. Further advising that the Chief Executive's (Director-General of the Department or his delegate) approval is required before the Trust makes disbursement from the general or any loan fund not provided for in the approved budget. Approval of the Trust's 2009 / 2010 Annual Works Program will be advised separately when the necessary Ministerial consent and Chief Executive's approval have been obtained. (102/0001)

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

3. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, South Johnstone, 15th September, 2009, referring to the Trust letter dated 17th June, 2009 formally applying for assistance under the Queensland Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements following the Queensland Monsoonal Flooding and Tropical Cyclones Charlotte January 2009, and Ellie February 2009 events.

Advising that the proposed restoration of Trust assets as described in that letter are conditionally approved under Section 10 (1) of the *River Improvement Trust Act 1940* subject to the Trust complying with a number of laws and conditions. (103/0020)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted and further discussions be held with Messrs. Cristaudo, Iafano, Morselli and Trotter at the next Trust meeting at 10.30am.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti - Carried)

4. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Townsville, 25th September, 2009, forwarding copy of Government Gazette Notification dated 25th September, 2009 regarding proposed Permanent Road Closure abutting Lot 73 SP217213, Parish of Marathon and seeking the Trusts views and/or requirements in relation to the application. Further advising that the proposed use of the subject area if the road closure is approved would be growing crops. (019/16852)

Resolved – That the Trust has no objection or requirements.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti - Carried)

5. DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING, 18th September, 2009, advising that the Department is now finalising all outstanding projects beyond their current approved completion dates and that the Department has now allowed a new final completion date of 30th November, 2009 for the Kingsbury Creek Floodgate project. Further advising that if the Trust is unable to complete and acquit the project by 30th November, 2009 the Trust will need to make a claim to the Department for the expenditure to date so partial funding can be paid, thereby reducing the amount of funding to be lapsed. (103/0022)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted and the project consultant cost be finalised to allow a final claim for expenditure to be lodged prior to 30th November, 2009.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)

6. STATE COUNCIL OF RIVER TRUSTS, 24th September, 2009, forwarding a list of questions to be sent to the Department of Environment and Resource Management for answers prior to the State Council's Annual General Meeting. Requesting the Trust review the list and include any further matters to be raised. (101/0008)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted and the Trust forward its comments to the State Council of River Trusts and Trust Engineer develop up further information in relation to Section 10 and 11 Powers of the River Trust Act.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti - Carried)

7. POSSIBLE WASHAWAY OUTFLOW, HALIFAX – DISCUSSIONS WITH MESSRS. BRUCE, JOHN AND DOUG MAHONY, FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2009.
Consideration of correspondence from Trust Engineer, Mr. Bruce Leach to Messrs. Mahony dated 24th September, 2009 confirming that involvement from Mahony would be conditional on the Trust securing control over the proposed outflow pathway to the south of their property and that it is the Trust's intention to conduct discussions with relevant property owners regarding this during the course of its current Lower Herbert Flood study.

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

- G. **GENERAL BUSINESS** – That the Trust note that household effects and rubbish has been dumped on the bank of the Herbert River in the vicinity of Long Pocket and Council has investigated the site and the Trust requires action to be taken to have the items cleaned up.

- H. **CONCLUSION** – The meeting concluded at 12.40 p.m.

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 18th November, 2009

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