

HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY, 2012
AT 9.00 A.M.



A. ATTENDANCE – Present were Mr. W.H. Pickering (Chairperson), Cr. G.P. Gianotti (Member), Cr. P.D. Lynch (Member), Mr. R.W. Clark (Trust Secretary), Mr. B.E. Leach (Trust Engineer), and Mr. S. Hall (Trust Works Manager).

B. APOLOGY – An apology was received from Cr. P.D. Lynch (Member).

C. MINUTES -

Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on the 1st December, 2011 and Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 6th December, 2011.

Resolved – That the minutes of the General Meeting held on the 1st December, 2011 and Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 6th December, 2011 be approved.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

D. WORKS REPORT –

Consideration of Trust Engineer's December, 2011 and January, 2012 report of works performed to date and activities in progress.

Resolved – That the Report be received and noted.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

E. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT -

1. The Secretary submitted accounts for payment as hereunder and statements of receipts and disbursements for the period up to 2nd February, 2012:-

<u>General Fund</u> -	Cheque	\$Nil
	EFT	<u>\$24,852.65</u>
		<u>\$24,852.65</u>

Resolved – That payment of accounts as submitted be approved and the statement of receipts and disbursements be received and noted.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti - Carried)

F. DISCUSSIONS WITH CANEGROWERS HERBERT RIVER BOARD DIRECTORS.

Consideration of discussions with Canegrowers Herbert River Board Directors at 10.00 a.m. in relation to their correspondence received on the 7th December, 2011 expressing their concerns about the apparent lack of urgency by the Trust in pursuing work to access funding through DEEDI to clean up dead and fallen trees in local waterways. Particular problems are being experienced in the Alligator Ponds area where flood mitigation infrastructure has been poorly maintained and forwarding photographs of the north bank of the Herbert River at Herbertvale highlighting one section where major bank and esplanade area has been progressively lost from 2009, 2010, 2011 flood events and now threatens a large area of cropping land. (101/0002)

Resolved – That it be noted that discussions focused on explaining to the Canegrowers Board the process involving obtaining approval for NDRRA, timely and preventative works and funding constraints for new riverbank damage and also issues regarding the operation of the Ripple and Catherina Creek floodgates.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

G. SESSION WITH MICHAEL NASH OF HERBERT RIVER CATCHMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

Consideration of discussions held with the Catchment Coordinator and Acting Terrain NRM, Hinchinbrook Area Team Leader, Mr. Michael Nash

Resolved – That the discussions be noted.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

H. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Townsville, 17th January, 2012, seeking the Trust's views and / or requirements in relation to an application for permanent road closure over Road Licence 4898 (described as Lot 1 on RL4898) over part of Martin's Lane, Long Pocket and shown as Lot A on Drawing CNS10/094A adjoining Lot 1 on CWL1337. (023/0003)

Resolved – That the Trust advise that it has no interest in this application.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

2. TERRAIN NRM REEF RESCUE WATER QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANTS.
Consideration of possible Trust projects to be submitted under the Terrain NRM Reef Rescue Water Quality Incentive Grants.

Resolved – That the Trust submit a project via Terrain for the David Morselli riverbank erosion problem at a total estimated project cost of \$200,000 funded 50% by the grant program and subject to the landowner agreeing to make a contribution in accordance with the adopted scale.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

3. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 21st December, 2011, advising that last summer's flood and cyclone events required a range of urgent repair work, including clearing vegetation which on various tenures is regulated under the *Sustainability Planning Act 2009* (SPA) and *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (NCA). Clarifying existing exemptions available to the Trust and to authorise clearing under circumstances where exemptions do not exist to aid emergency work or recovery work that may be required in the event that there is an emergency or natural disaster in the coming wet season. These temporary exemptions will remain in force until the 31st December, 2013. (103/0001)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti - Carried)

4. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 25th January, 2012, advising the *Queensland's River Improvement Trusts Summary of Annual Reports and Financial Statements 2010 / 2011* was tabled in Parliament on the 31st October, 2011 which is a summarised compilation of the individual annual reports and audited financial statements of the 15 trusts for the 2010 / 2011 financial year. Requesting the Trust to note that it is required to consider its annual financial statements and the auditor-general's report on their statements at the Trust's first ordinary meeting held after receiving these documents from the Queensland Audit Office. Forwarding copy of the summary report. Further advising that the Treasurer has granted the Trust exemptions from compliance with certain provisions of the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009 for statutory bodies from 1st July, 2012 and explaining those exemptions. Further advising that the Trust is required to establish reasonable procedures for the effective management of public interest disclosures and forwarding generic procedures for managing public interest disclosures developed by DERM to assist the Trust. (101/0001)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

5. HALIFAX PROGRESS ASSOCIATION, Halifax, 6th January, 2012, requesting an inspection of the levy bank at the end of Rupp Street, Halifax where a large portion of the new levy has been washed away after the old levy was removed and new fill placed then grassed and water. Advising that they believe the watering of the grass has caused the problem and concerns have been raised as to the structural integrity of this section of the levy bank.

Resolved – That the Association be advised that the damage will be repaired and the Trust is of the view that the levee structural integrity at this location is not under any immediate threat.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

6. P.A. TOIGO & R.D. TOSCANO, Cordelia, 26th January, 2012, advising the Trust of erosion on the riverbank behind 8 Eddleston Drive, Cordelia and requesting the Trust to inspect the damage as a large mango tree which currently holds the bank together will fall causing more damage should this erosion not be attended to now.

Resolved – That the Trust inspect the location for further consideration.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti - Carried)

7. 2012 MEETING DATES.
Consideration of amending the HRIT Meeting date scheduled for 26th April, 2012 due to the Government's change to the Local Government elections from the 31st March, 2012 to the 28th April, 2012. Suggested new date for HRIT Meeting is Thursday 19th April, 2012.

Resolved – That the Trust meeting scheduled be amended to change the meeting date from the 26th April, 2012 to the 19th April, 2012.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

8. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Townsville, 31st January, 2012, seeking the Trust's views and / or requirements in relation to an application for Renewal of Term Lease over Lot 69 on CWL2839. The current lessee has advised they are intending to use the land for the same purpose (grazing). (076/0001)

Resolved – That the Trust advise it has no interest in this application.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti - Carried)

I. GENERAL BUSINESS –

1. ROCKWORK AT MAHONY PROPERTY, HALIFAX.
Consideration of land tenure and location of rockwork at the Mahony property at Halifax.

Resolved - That the land tenure and location of the rockwork at the Mahony property at Halifax be identified for further consideration.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti - Carried)

J INSPECTIONS – The Trust conducted the following inspections:-

- W. Tonto – Swampy Creek;
- Mr. Pino Lenzo – Levee Construction – Waterview Creek;
- Fontana's Road – Levee Construction – Frances Creek.

K. CONCLUSION – The meeting concluded at 4.30 p.m.

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