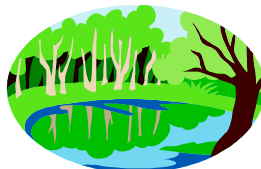


HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2012

AT 9.07 AM



- A. ATTENDANCE – Present were Mr WH Pickering (Chairperson), Cr WG Skinner (Member), Cr DG Carr (Member), Ms LE Mash (Trust Secretary), Mr BE Leach (Trust Engineer), Mr S Hall (Trust Works Manager), and Catchment Coordinator and Acting Terrain NRM, Hinchinbrook Area Team Leader, Mr Michael Nash.

- B. MINUTES -

Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on 2 August, 2012.

Resolved – That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 2 August, 2012 be approved.
(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

- C. WORKS REPORT –

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

Resolved – That the Report be received and noted.
(Crs Carr and Skinner – Carried)

That the Form B - Annual Works Program 2012 / 2013 as presented be approved and submitted.
(Mr Pickering and Cr Carr - Carried)

That the Trust seek the Department of Natural Resources and Mines' Director General's advice as to the review of the Department's decisions on the Trust's Yasi submissions and also request that the new guidelines be provided to the Trust.
(Mr Pickering and Cr Carr - 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 6 September, 2012:-

<u>General Fund</u> -	Cheque	\$Nil
	EFT.....	\$15,695.77
		<u>\$15,695.77</u>

Resolved – That payment of accounts as submitted be approved and the statement of receipts and disbursements be received and noted.

(Crs Skinner and Carr - Carried)

E. 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.

(Crs Skinner and Carr - Carried)

F. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. RECORD OF INSPECTION – THURSDAY 2 AUGUST 2012

Consideration of Report from Trust Engineer dated 18 August 2012 regarding inspections carried out by the Trust on 2 August 2012 at Ray Lancini's property at Taylors Beach Road and John Scott's property at Dalrymple Creek.

The meeting noted that the flood gates at Ray Lancini's property have been removed and are scheduled to be installed on 27 and 28 September 2012.

Resolved - That the Report be received and noted.

That the Trust formally advise Mr. Lancini that as the flood gates on the Swampy Creek road culvert under Taylors Beach Road were installed by Council, the Trust is unable to assist on this occasion and the matter be referred to Council.

That the Trust formally advise Mr. Scott that the Trust does not have the financial resources to maintain this asset on Dalrymple Creek and affected landholders would be advised of the situation as soon as the Trust is in receipt of the outcome of its Cyclone Yasi submission with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

2. QUEENSLAND OMBUDSMAN

Consideration of correspondence dated 2 August 2012 from Queensland Ombudsman acknowledging the Trust's complaint letter and attached documentation dated 30 July 2012 concerning Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding (Timely Preventative Works) and restoration of Trust riverbank asset protection work. Advising that the complaint will be assessed and the Trust will be advised as soon as possible whether they will investigate. If they decide they cannot investigate the complaint, or that an investigation is not warranted, the Ombudsman will provide reasons. (103/0025)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.

(Crs Skinner and Carr - Carried)

3. TERRAIN NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Consideration of correspondence dated 10 August 2012 from Terrain Natural Resource Management advising that from 27 August 2012 Terrain and Johnstone River Catchment Management Association (JRCMA) will be located at 2 Stitt Street, Innisfail (old Innisfail High School library building on the corner of Stitt Street and Bruce Highway). All telephone numbers and the postal address will remain the same. (104/0001)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.
(Crs Skinner and Carr - Carried)

4. REGULATION OF LEVEES – CONSULTATION ON DEFINITION OF LEVEE

Consideration of Trust Secretary's submission dated 10 August 2012 providing information to the Local Government Association of Queensland for inclusion in their submission regarding regulation of levees – consultation on definition of levee. (103/0025)

Resolved - That the advice be received and noted.
(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

5. APPROVED CRITICAL RIPARIAN JOBS

Consideration of Trust Engineer's correspondence to various property owners dated 9 August 2012 regarding "Approved Critical Riparian Jobs". (103/0025)

Resolved - That the advice be received and noted.
(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

6. STATE COUNCIL OF RIVER TRUSTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Consideration of information received from Burdekin Shire Rivers Improvement Trust dated 17 August 2012 forwarding registration form, accommodation details, and a preliminary Agenda for the State Council of River Trust Annual General Meeting on 17 and 18 October 2012. (104/0004)

Resolved - That available Trust Members attend the Annual General Meeting on 17 and 18 October 2012.
(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

7. QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE ADDRESS AT STATE COUNCIL OF RIVER TRUSTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Consideration of correspondence from SCRTA Secretary dated 22 August 2012 advising of the Queensland Audit Office address at the Annual General Meeting on 18 October 2012 regarding the change to accrual accounting and recognition and depreciation of assets. Also requesting the Trust to provide questions it would like answered by QAO at the AGM. (101/0001)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.
(Crs Skinner and Carr - Carried)

8. APPOINTMENT OF TRUST SECRETARY

Consideration of correspondence from Hinchinbrook Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Leanne Mash dated 24 August 2012 accepting the Trust's invitation to fulfil role of Trust Secretary.

Resolved – That the advice be received and Ms. Mash's acceptance be noted and endorsed.
(Mr Pickering and Cr Carr - Carried)

9. HON. ANDREW CRIPPS MP, MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINES

Consideration of correspondence from Hon. Andrew Cripps MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Mines dated 29 August 2012 in response to the Trust's letter dated 29 August 2012 seeking his approval to reactivate the process to select two community representatives for the Trust. Advising that he has requested Mr. Gary Jensen, Manager, Water Management and Use, North Region of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines to reactivate and manage the selection process for these new Trust community members. Mr. Jensen will work closely with and involve the Trust in any selection process. (101/0003)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted.
(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

10. HON. ANDREW CRIPPS MP, MEMBER FOR HINCHINBROOK

Consideration of correspondence from Hon. Andrew Cripps MP, Member for Hinchinbrook dated 30 August 2012 making representations on behalf of Ms. Tracey Schipp of 10 Eddleston Drive, Cordelia who suffered damage to the bank of the Herbert River, adjacent to her property in 2009. Advising that the Trust notified Ms. Schipp in early 2010 that work to rectify the damage would occur in August or September, 2010 and to date this work has not taken place. Further damage to the river bank occurred in 2011 following Cyclone Yasi and since then the situation has worsened with sink holes opening up on the property with her home slipping on the eastern side by approximately 50 metres. Ms. Schipp was contacted by the Trust prior to Christmas 2011 to confirm that works were still required. Inquiries were made in February, 2012 about when this important work would be undertaken, however a response has not yet been received. Seeking advice from the Trust as to when these works will be undertaken. (103/0025)

Resolved – That the Trust advise the Minister that the property has been submitted in the Trust's 2012 / 2013 Annual Works Program for approval.
(Crs Skinner and Carr - Carried)

11. BW SUTHERLAND

Consideration of correspondence from BW Sutherland dated 31 August 2012 forwarding photographs of the Halifax Levee (at the end of Taylors Beach Road) overflowing beside and behind his residence at 7 Stephensen Avenue, Halifax in the 2009 and 2011 floods. Requesting why the material taken from digouts in the road cannot be used to build up the levee which he understood would never be touched as it was an overflow. (104/0001)

Resolved – That the Trust thanks Mr Sutherland for the photographs and advise that it is aware of the issue of overtopping at the southern end and is currently undertaking an analysis of the levee.
(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

G. SESSION WITH TANIA OLSEN AND JASON WILLIAMS OF NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (NRM)

Consideration of discussions with Tania Olsen and Jason Williams of Natural Resource Management (NRM) regarding the process to fill the positions of Chairperson and two Community Members for the Trust, NDRRA Guidelines, and Trust assets eligibility.

Trust Members agreed to return their comments to the Trust Secretary regarding the Trust Chairperson and Community Members draft advertisement, position descriptions and selection criteria by 10 September 2012.

Resolved – That the discussions be noted.
(Crs Skinner and Carr - Carried)

- H. SESSION WITH CATTLE CREEK AND FRANCES CREEK FLOOD ABATEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE
Consideration of discussions held with the Cattle Creek Flood Abatement Steering Committee members Peter Sheedy, Sam Spina (Solicitor), Luciano Mammarella and John Matrippolito seeking the Trust's agreement in principle to include removal of high priority sediment and debris from a section of Cattle Creek in its Annual Works Program, subject to the project being funded by the landholders.

Consideration was also given to correspondence received from Cattle and Frances Creek Flood Abatement Steering Committee dated 14 August 2012 providing a background on the Committee's formation and its objective to establish links with all relevant agencies and Sucrogen, with a view to forming a statutory body under the Water Act to raise funds for the purpose of maintaining good integrity of streams and main drainage channels. In the shorter term and before the next wet season, the Committee propose to raise funds voluntarily and to work with the River Trust and Council to address sediment extraction and debris removal from key areas of Cattle and Frances Creeks, and to make a special project of weed management in the Cattle Creek Wetlands area west of the highway. Further advising that the Committee would like to implement an action plan in concert with the Trust and Council for timely work to keep faith with the Queensland Government's actions, notwithstanding that there are currently no immediate funding commitments for large scale works. Suggesting to both the Council and the Trust that it would be in the interest of all concerned to align efforts and to seek appropriate support from the Transport and Main Roads Department. The Committee also envisages that after the completion of work to restore the hydrology of Cattle Creek it would like to work with the Lower Herbert Water Management Authority towards the extension of the Authority's boundaries to take in Cattle and Frances Creeks under appropriate arrangements. Extending an invitation to the Trust to attend meetings of the Steering Committee and to join the Committee in pursuit of its short and long term objectives by including this project on the work plan. (103/0025)

Resolved – That the discussions be noted.
(Crs Carr and Skinner - Carried)

- I. INSPECTIONS – Inspections were carried out at the following locations:-

- Vance Monzeglio – property at Black Gin Creek
- Lino Cervellin – property at Bambaroo
- Salvatore Torrisi – property at Stone River
- Sam Girgenti – property at Ripple Creek

- J. CONCLUSION – The meeting and inspections concluded at 5.40 pm

(Sgd) Mr W.H. Pickering
TRUST CHAIRPERSON