

# HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER, 2011  
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. MINUTES -

Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.

Resolved – That the minutes of the General Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 be approved.  
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti - Carried)

C. WORKS REPORT –

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

Resolved – That the Report be received and noted.

That the Trust engage Paul Britton as a "casual" employee at the proposed hourly rate of \$90 via Hinchinbrook Shire Council on the basis of him undertaking the draft scope of proposed flood gate preventative maintenance and checking.  
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - 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 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2011:-

<u>General Fund</u> -	Cheque .....	\$Nil
	EFT .....	<u>\$101,843.89</u>
		<u>\$101,843.89</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. SESSION WITH MICHAEL NASH OF HERBERT RIVER CATCHMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

It was noted that Michael Nash is unable to attend this meeting.

F. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. MAHONY PROPERTY – LOT 1 ON CWL36517 AND LOT 2 ON RP740542.

Consideration of an inspection of the riverbank conducted on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.

Resolved – That the inspection note be received and noted.

*(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)*

2. MACKNADE CREEK - LOT 22 ON RP705315 AND LOT 26 ON RP705357.

Consideration of inspection of levee construction and removal of vegetation at Macknade Creek.

Resolved – That the Trust advise the Department of Environment & Resource Management (DERM) that since our last report further work has occurred and seeking their response.

*(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti - Carried)*

3. STATE COUNCIL OF RIVER TRUSTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Consideration of Report from the Trust Secretary on attendance at the State Council of River Trusts Conference held in Cairns on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.

Resolved – That the Report be received and noted.

*(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti - Carried)*

4. RIVERBANK DAMAGE – HERBERT RIVER - MARIO PORTA PROPERTY LOCATION

Consideration of the possibility of submitting to Queensland Reconstruction Authority restoration of riverbank damage at this location for funding under a special new works category identified by QldRA.

Resolved – That the Trust endorse the advice by the Trust Engineer to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority in relation to this matter.

*(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)*

5. HINCHINBROOK NRM FORUM.

Consideration of a request from Terrain NRM to provide NRM managers and stakeholders with an update of the Trust's activities after the floods / cyclone at their Water and Water Quality Forum on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2011.

Resolved – That the Trust Chairperson will give a presentation to the Forum on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2011.

*(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)*

6. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY, Kedron, 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2011, advising that the Application Assessment Group did not support the Trust's application under Round Three of Natural Disaster Resilience Program, Kingsbury Creek Floodgate due to the program being oversubscribed and the funding allocation being met with higher priority projects. (103/0026)

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted and a media release be provided to the Herbert River Express advising of this decision.

*(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti - Carried)*

7. TERRAIN NRM, Innisfail, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2011, advising that the Terrain 2011 Annual General Meeting will be held in Manunda on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 at 4pm and seeking any items that may be considered at that meeting.

Resolved – That the advice be received and noted and Terrain NRM be advised that the Trust will not be represented at the Annual General Meeting.  
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)

8. QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY – CRITICAL WATER COURSE, RIPARIAN AND BEACH RECOVERY FUNDING.

Consideration of the Trust's submission to Queensland Reconstruction Authority for Critical Water Course, Riparian and Beach Recovery funding dated 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.

Resolved – That the Trust endorse the projects as submitted by the Trust Engineer.  
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Lynch - Carried)

9. LENZO PROPERTY – LOT 8 ON RP713068.

Consideration of inspections of the property held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 where members noted fresh workings including both additions to the levee and the black soil stockpiled adjacent the levee. The Trust Engineer to provide details of HRIT assets at this location to enable further consideration by the Trust.

Resolved – That the Trust arrange an inspection with the landholder.  
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)

10. ON SITE MEETING POMONA ROAD.

Consideration of Record of Discussions by Trust Engineer dated 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 in relation to an on site meeting held at Pomona Road on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.

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

- G. INSPECTIONS –

2.00 p.m. ALLIGATOR PONDS DRAINS

Trust Chairperson, Mr. Bill Pickering, Trust Members, Cr. Geoffrey Gianotti and Cr. Patrick Lynch, and Trust Engineer, Mr. Bruce Leach met with Mr. David Pearson, Mr. David Carr, Mr. Charles Girgenti, Mr. Vince Russo and Mr. Mike Pisano (via speaker phone for part of meeting only) to discuss and inspect the Alligator Ponds Drain.

*See attached Record of Inspection dated 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.*

- H. GENERAL BUSINESS –

1. 2012 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS.

Resolved – That a Draft 2012 Calendar of Meetings be considered at the Trust Meeting on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.  
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch - Carried)

- I. CONCLUSION – The meeting concluded at 4.30 p.m.

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

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# HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

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## REPORT TO:

- ☒ Herbert River Improvement Trust Meeting
- ☒ Trust Secretary

## SUBJECT:

**Record of Inspection – Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2011**

## ATTENDANCE:

Mr David Carr; Mr David Pearson; Mr Charles Girenti; Mr Vince Russo and Mr Michael Pisano via speaker phone for part of meeting only.

Herbert River Improvement Trust representatives:-  
Trust Chairperson – Mr Bill Pickering; Cr Geoff Gianotti; Cr Pat Lynch and  
Trust Engineer – Bruce Leach.

## COMMENCEMENT:

Onsite inspection and meeting of Alligator Ponds Drain commenced at 2:00pm.

## DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Mr Bill Pickering outlined purpose of the discussion – to advance the Department of Environment and Resource Management's [DERM] suggestion of vegetating Alligator Pond Drain via planting a row of Leichhardt Trees along the northern bank. The idea was to restrict grass growth in the drain via shading. The introduction of vegetation also served environmental values and was consistent with public ownership of infrastructure such as drains;
- Landowners advised they were opposed to establishment of trees but would be happy with vegetating with a suitable grass such as Pangola. They believed establishment of trees would adversely impact on the maintenance and operating of the drain as well as their adjacent farm activities. Landowners asked that the Herbert River Improvement Trust [HRIT] represent their interests in discussion with DERM;
- Ownership of the Drain – Mr Michael Pisano advised the "coffin" was the boundary between the Lower Herbert Water Management Authority [LHWMA] and HRIT ownership with the HRIT owning the downstream section. HRIT to confirm;
- Possibility of a single authority owning the whole drain – Mr Michael Pisano advised that the LHWMA were not adverse to the idea, however their taking-up the eastern section would require those benefitted lands agreeing to become part of their Authority area.

## INSPECTION:

- An inspection of the eastern section of the drain took place;
- HRIT noted the rocky section of the drain about the Girenti property, and tree establishment on batters. HRIT to remove this vegetation from the bounds of the rocky section;
- The Trust noted fallen vegetation and debris in the bed of the drain, and other Cyclone/flood damage. Remedial works to be arranged as a matter of urgency under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements [NDRRA].

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## HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST



### RECORD OF INSPECTION – THURSDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2011

Enquiries: Mr Bruce Leach ☎ 4776 4605

7<sup>th</sup> November 2011

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### OUTCOMES:

- Trust to confirm ownership of sections of Drain, and review maintenance activities;
- Trust to review revegetation proposal in view of landowners concerns;
- Vegetation to be removed from rocky section of drain;
- Drain repairs via NDRRA to be arranged.

### CONCLUSION:

The inspection concluded back at Ingham at 4:30pm.

### REPORTING OFFICER:

Bruce E Leach  
TRUST ENGINEER

### SIGNATURE:

### DATE:

7<sup>th</sup> November 2011