

HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY 7TH JULY, 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 Finance Manager (C.J. Trost).

- B. APOLOGY –

- C. MINUTES -

Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on the 2nd June, 2011 and the Special Meeting Minutes held on the 30th June, 2011.

Resolved – That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 2nd June, 2011 and Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 30th June, 2011 be approved.
(Cr. Gianotti and Mr. Pickering - Carried)

- D. WORKS REPORT –

Consideration of Trust Engineer's June, 2011 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 7th July, 2011:-

<u>General Fund</u> -	Cheque	\$Nil
	EFT	<u>\$262,761.06</u>
		<u>\$262,761.06</u>

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

F. DISCUSSIONS WITH QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY AND OPERATION CLEAN UP REPRESENTATIVES.

Discussions were held with Mr. Wayne Hepple from Queensland Reconstruction Authority and Doug Lloyd from Operation Clean Up (OCU).

Mr. Lloyd advised that there may be funding under OCU (up to \$2M) available to contribute to situations where vegetation blockages in streams is or has caused damage to riverbanks. Funds could be available to remove the cyclone deposited debris and cost of machinery to carry out rock placement but not the purchase of the rock. Such work would have to meet the following criteria:-

1. Meet OCU guidelines (i.e. private land ownership must obtain major income from primary production and tourism).
2. Meet HRIT guidelines; and
3. Must involve a landholder contribution (which they could source from the available grants of up to \$25,000).

OCU finishes on the 31st December, 2011. Landowners must register their properties under OCU by the 1st August, 2011.

It was noted that the Frances Creek area could qualify under NDRRA timely and preventative works or where such work was not required to protect infrastructure, then such work might qualify under OCU. Consequently Frances Creek landholders should join together and compile maps etc., and where appropriate register their properties under OCU by the 1st August, 2011.

It was also noted that it would be beneficial for the Trust to invite Mr. Tim Smith and Mr. Sam Pagano from the Johnstone Shire River Trust to talk to the Trust about how they have gone about doing work under the timely preventative work component of NDRRA.

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

Discussions were held with the Catchment Coordinator and Acting Terrain NRM, Hinchinbrook Area Team Leader, Mr. Michael Nash

Michael briefed the meeting on the criteria required for projects submitted under the Reef Rescue Program (RRP).

Funding could be up to 100% or \$150,000 per project but 50% of the weighting criteria must justify water quality outcomes.

RRP applications have closed but the Trust should prepare itself and consider projects for next years round of funding whereby RRP could fund the revegetation component of riverbank protection works thus leveraging available Trust and landholder funds.

Michael raised the Cattle Creek situation and suggested that if State Government funds were made available, then any project should be funded to and delivered by the Trust with the Catchment Group as part of the process.

Michael gave an update on the Water Quality Monitoring Program which is a three (3) year commitment into which Council has agreed to provide an annual amount of \$10,000. Meetings are in progress to finalise the documentation and Council will shortly receive a letter outlining briefly the deliverables for the project.

Michael Nash and Trust Works Manager, Steve Hall left the meeting at 12.05 p.m.

H. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Cairns, 24th June, 2011, seeking the Trust's views in relation to an application to permanently close part of Lot 1 on RL1407 adjoining Lot 1 on SP213030 at Abergowrie Road, Lannercost. The proposed use of the land is to extend the yard to the house block. (101/0004)

Resolved – That the Trust advise it has no objection or views regarding the proposal.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

2. P. & S. BROWN, Ingham, 29th June, 2011, requesting the Trust investigate and if possible clear the debris from Francis Creek deposited as a result of Cyclone Yasi and flooding in 2011 and have repairs carried out to the breached levy bank wall on the northern downstream side. (103/0025)

Resolved – That P. & S. Brown be advised that the breach in the levee has been referred to the Main Roads Department and the Trust is investigating the vegetation blockage and funding opportunities to clear them.
(Crs. Gianotti and Lynch – Carried)

3. KINGSBURY CREEK FLOODGATES.
An application for the Kingsbury Creek Floodgate proposal has been lodged with the Emergency Management Queensland's Natural Disaster Resilience Program [NDRP], and which closed 30th June, 2011. The application was made on the basis of the Trust contributing a 1/6th share. Therefore, should the application be successful, the Trust's contribution towards the estimated \$1.5 million project would be \$250,000.

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

4. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Brisbane, 3rd June, 2011, advising that the Director General has ceased his role with DERM and has taken up a position of Director-General of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Associate Director-General, Mr. Terry Wall will be acting Director General for DERM in the interim. (101/0002)

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

5. LGM QUEENSLAND, Newstead, 9th June, 2011, forwarding 2011/12 Membership Contribution Invoice, an updated Certificate of Currency, updated Membership Schedule, Statutory Disclosure and Important Notices for consideration and attention. (104/0003)

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

6. CASSANDRA BARNES, 62 Eddleston Drive, Cordelia, consideration of preliminary Trust inspection of river bank damage at 62 Eddleston Drive, Cordelia carried out on the 2nd June, 2011 where it appears the adjacent area has recently had some clearing and possible soil removal from what appears to be Crown Land. Property boundaries need to be established.

Resolved – That it be noted that the matter is still under investigation and a Department of Environment and Resource Management representative be invited to the next Trust Meeting.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

7. CYCLONE YASI NEW WORKS PRIORITY LISTING.
Consideration of Cyclone Yasi New Works Priority Listing.

Resolved – That the Trust review the listing in view of the information presented at the meeting today by Old Reconstruction Authority representatives.
(Mr. Pickering and Cr. Gianotti – Carried)

8. BUDGET 2011 / 2012.

Consideration of the draft 2011 / 2012 Budget and Annual Report and the Financial Statements for 2010 / 2011.

Resolved – That the draft 2011 / 2012 Budget and Annual Report and the Financial Statements for 2010 / 2011 as presented be adopted.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

I. GENERAL BUSINESS –

1. CATTLE CREEK

Resolved - That the Trust convey to the Member for Hinchinbrook, The Hon. Andrew Cripps MP and Minister for Natural Resources, The Hon. Rachel Nolan MP the interest of the Trust in the Cattle Creek area and should funding be available the Trust or its successor believe it is the appropriate Authority to administer it.
(Crs. Lynch and Gianotti – Carried)

2. EASEMENTS – ALLIGATOR PONDS AREA

Resolved - That the next Trust meeting consider a sketch plan of the missing “easements” in the Alligator Ponds area to consider action necessary to secure tenure thereover and protect re-vegetation work.

J. INSPECTIONS – Inspections were conducted at the following properties:-

12.00 noon Frances Creek downstream reach.

Mr. Pickering, Cr. Lynch, Bruce Leach, Doug Lloyd and Wayne Hepple inspected blockages to and bank damage to Frances Creek as a possible new works site which may include an element of Operation Cleanup funding.

2.45 p.m. Paul Mizzi – Mizzi Bridge, Victoria Creek

Mr. Pickering, Cr. Gianotti, Cr. Lynch and Bruce Leach inspected damaged Trust asset (rock protection) at Mizzi's Landing. The Trust noted and advised Mr. Mizzi that damage was eligible as NDRRA expenditure. The Trust also noted bank erosion upstream of the existing rock protection. The Trust advised Mr. Mizzi that this damage was unlikely to comply with NDRRA expenditure, however an investigation would proceed.

3.45 p.m. Rico Basaglia – 12 Meyer Street, Ingham

Mr. Basaglia's residence is 3 lots up from Mr. Elortegui on Meyer St, which is the location of the recently completed Urgent Timely Preventative Works (UTPW) bank stabilisation. The bank at the rear of Mr. Basaglia's residence is showing signs of instability and therefore will be considered as a TPW candidate.

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

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