

# **MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MACKENZIE FORESTRY BOARD HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, FAIRLIE, ON MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2015, AT 8.58 AM**

### **PRESENT:**

Cr Graham Smith (Chairman)  
Cr Murray Cox  
Cr Noel Jackson  
Cr Evan Williams (arrived at 9.15)

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Claire Barlow (Mayor)  
Wayne Barnett (Chief Executive)  
Paul Morris (Manager – Finance and Administration)  
Kevin O'Neill (Forestry Manager)  
Julie Jongen (Committee Secretary)  
Cr Russell Armstrong arrived 9.30  
Cr James Leslie arrived 9.39

### **APOLOGIES:**

There were no apologies.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **VISITOR:**

Peter Bradley, Consultant for Glenrock Wildings Trees

### **MINUTES:**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Mackenzie Forestry Board held on October 16, 2014, including such parts as were taken with the public excluded, be confirmed and adopted as the correct record of the meeting.

**Murray Cox/Noel Jackson**

Kevin O'Neill thanked Terry O'Neill for the maps. Woodburn is not in these maps maybe we can get a copy from Council.

Community Board raised concerns about fire risks with motorbikes and walking tracks in the Tekapo Forestry block.

Wayne confirmed Garth Nixon is actioning points above so signage is been organised.

## REPORTS:

### FORESTRY MANAGERS REPORT NOVEMBER 2014 – JANUARY 2015:

The Forestry Manager's report is included with the agenda. Kevin O'Neill mentioned that they are half way through their thinning programme but due to dry conditions has been held up. Mackenzie would require a lot more rain before work could commence there. Graham Smith spoke how everyone was been on high alert due to 2 fires near by the plantations.

Resolved that the report be received

**Noel Jackson/Graham Smith**

### FINANCIAL REPORT – JANUARY 2015:

The Finance Manager spoke on his report.

Resolved that the report be received

**Graham Smith/Murray Cox**

## GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. **Wildings** - Kevin O'Neill introduced Peter Bradley, supervisor and director of Glenrock Station. Glenrock station has an extreme issue with wilding pines and are requesting that they work together with council to control these issues. There is a problem at top of Mt Edwards and for the last 5 years have been trying to control with Ecan. The last 3 years Glenrock Station have spent \$160,000, and looking forward it is estimated a further \$750,000 will be the costs to get them back under control. There is an area of 150-200 hectares of seedling pines and to spray it is a cost of approximately \$2200 a hectare. Department of conservation, Ecan and leasees are working together. Burkes Pass also has an area of concern. Blocks on the right and left are council properties. 2 years ago there was a joint effort with rabbit control and the station costs were \$75,000, rabbits now under control. Glenrock budget between \$60,000 - \$80,000 thousand a year and Ecan match dollar for dollar but require funding from LINZ and need assistance from Council. Peter said he is trying to build a relationship with all parties as the station cannot manage this alone. Glenrock station have hired a rabbit controller who is living on the property and is taking out about 300 rabbits a month. ECan are assisting in some ways with rabbit control.

Graham Smith commended Glenrock for what they are trying to do, but they are not the only farm with this issue.  
Mayor Barlow said Peter's visit has highlighted the urgency for assistance.

Resolved that this matter be taken to council as the Forestry board is concerned and need a report from council.

**Murray Cox/Noel Jackson**

2. **Lease Grazing** - Kevin spoke about 3 blocks that are running fine.

Resolved that any grazing alongside highways must have suitable fencing at the expense of the leasee.

**Evan Williams/Murray Cox**

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Cr Noel Jackson spoke about concerns with forestry blocks adjacent to Graham Pages land and feels that what has been done is different to what was discussed. He feels that if someone wants to channel water out of a forestry block it should come to the Forestry Committee and not be done by a couple of people.

Cr Graham Smith responded that himself and Kevin made the decision as they believed it was an operational decision.

Cr Noel Jackson questioned why did the water have to come from the forestry block and why didn't it come from the paddock. Kevin's response was it needed to be in the forestry block so there was enough fall for the water.

They had been told they needed to get consent from the water users but it appears this wasn't done.

Cr Murray Cox said he believes Mr Gidings will be in touch with Cr Noel Jackson.

Cr Noel Jackson questioned if some of the blocks that are costing council expense could be leased, this land is reserve land.

The Board will look at this further down the track.

**THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.49am**

**CHAIRMAN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_