



# EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

**DATE** 5 September 2009  
**VENUE** Wellington Airport

The meeting opened at 9.30am.

## PRESENT

Rob Mitchell in the Chair, Owen Cox, Richard Davies, Jane Dudley, Quentin Duthie, Phil Glasson, Graeme Lythgoe, Robin McNeill, Dennis Page, Lex Smith, Brian Stephenson,

Shaun Barnett (Bulletin Editor 12:30 – 2:30)

## 1 FORMAL

### 1.1 *Apologies*

David Barnes, Baz Hooper, Viv Milne, Barbara Morris, David Round

AGREED that the apologies be received

Noted that no apology had been received from Rick Barber

### 1.2 *Confirmation of the Agenda*

After a brief discussion it was agreed that the priorities for this meeting should be:

- The recent Crown Mineral Announcement
- Wild Rivers
- Ureweras & Treaty Issues
- High Country Issues
- Recreation Spending
- Principles for Outdoor Recreation opportunities

### 1.3 *Confirmation of minutes of Exec meeting held 21 June 2009 in Wellington*

THAT the minutes of the Executive meeting held 21 June 2009 be confirmed

AGREED

### 1.4 *Report from FMC Mountain & Forest Trust*

1.4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 21/6/09 had not been distributed to the Exec so confirmation was held over to the next meeting.

1.4.2 Lex Smith gave a verbal report on what had been discussed at phone conference on 1/9/09

- President had been unable to participate because of personal commitments
- A grant of \$2500 for a book on Louper had been agreed to subject to normal conditions
- No change to the Trust structure was recommended
- There had been discussion about promoting the Trust through the Law Society and Public Trust but nothing had been done
- No decision had been reached on distribution of Trust Brochure which was printed in April
- The Phone Conference was considered to be a successful way of meeting – with the proviso that Jan Heine was available to assist Arnold at times.

The President expressed his concern about the lack of publicity related to the Trust.

Secretary noted that Gail had been waiting since June for instructions from trust about the distribution of the brochures promoting the Trust

## **2 ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE**

### **2.1 Correspondence**

AGREED that the correspondence as previously circulated be approved

Secretary raised the invitation by Forest & Bird to send observers to their two Island Conferences to be held at Omarama (16-18 October and at Waitakeres 21-22 November).

AGREED

- 1 That FMC should make an effort to send observers to these meetings in the interests of promoting strong ties between the two organizations.

Rob Mitchell & David Barnes to liaise with Mike Floate regarding attendance at Omarama  
Jane Dudley to coordinate 1 or 2 from the Auckland area to attend (Date clashes with FMC Exec meeting)

FMC would meet associated costs.

- 2 Secretary to write to F & B advising that we hoped to be represented and asking to be kept informed of the agenda & details

### **2.2 Finance**

- 2.2.1 The financial position as at 31 August 2009 had previously been circulated to members

THAT the payments for the period 1 March 2009 to 31 May 2009 totaling \$106737.90 be approved for payment retrospectively.

Graeme Lythgoe / Phil Glasson                      CARRIED

The Treasurer commented that the financial position was sound and the greater problem facing the Executive was not so much a lack of financial resources but a lack of human resources and in particular the time of Executive members to deal with issues.

- 2.2.2 Secretary advised that 80 clubs and 252 Supporters have renewed to date

AGREED that those clubs which had still not renewed be contacted informally to encourage them to remain members. The clubs to be contacted are:

Ngahaere TC, Massey University AC, Central Taranaki SAR  
Otago Ski Club & Lincoln Uni TC had not registered in 2008

Administration officer follows up Supporters who have not yet renewed.

- 2.2.3 Exec members were reminded that any preliminary comments on Honoraria should be with Viv Milne by 18 September.

### 3 **ADVOCACY**

This session started with a broad discussion around the points:

Are we proactive ( as in campaigns) or reactive (as in advocacy/submissions)  
Should we be encouraging our cubs to get involved or should we be promoting issues to the wider public  
How does our activity blend in with the work of other NGO's.

#### 3.1 ***Mining***

The meeting then moved to discuss the recent cabinet announcement over the possible mining on Conservation land. After considerable discussion the following points of action were agreed:

##### Bulletin Articles

Robin to write a provocative article  
Quentin to provide a short summary of legal situation and Schedule 4  
Rob to raise the issue in his Presidents Column

##### Website

Quentin & Rob to provide material to Phil for posting on website

##### Photo

Idea of having people take a photo of somewhere they tramp that they like, write a message on the back and then send the photo to the Minister of Mining.

##### Letter to Min Conservation

Rob to draft a suitable letter. Copied to Prime Minister and Hon Gerry Brownlee.

##### Bumper Sticker

Phil to draft up a design and get quotes. Idea is "Don't mine where I go"

##### Tui Billboards

Phil to see if we can suggest ideas to Tui for their Billboards

##### Media Watch

All Exec members asked to watch all NZ Papers & magazines they read and advise Secretary if any editorials, opinion articles appear related to this issue. Secretary to coordinate and let President know who will pen a "Letter to the Editor"

##### Campaign Summary:

- 1 Total protection of land in Schedule 4 and if possible inclusion of more land
- 2 Don't mine where we tramp or climb
- 3 Consultation required over any proposals on conservation land not in Schedule 4

Campaign Committee: Quentin, Dennis, Robin & Rob

AGREED To approach the Listener Cartoonist for permission to use the cartoon on p17 of Sept 12 issue and any cost (within reason) to be met from campaign budget. [Approval to use the cartoon at no charge was notified later in the meeting]

AGREED That FMC is prepared to initiate and/or participate in a campaign to respond to the Government's proposal to mine on Conservation land and will commit \$2000 from Campaign funding towards this end.

The meeting then adjourned for lunch

#### 3.2 ***Bulletin***

Shaun initiated a discussion about the use of the Bulletin to support our campaigns. There was a general discussion about likely topics for the November 2009 and March 2010 Bulletins

### **3.3 *St James Management Plan***

This submission is due on 14/9. Richard & Owen agreed to write a submission

### **3.4 *Wild Rivers***

Quentin presented his paper on Wild Rivers.

It was agreed to use the Bulletin and the Club Newsletter to promote the Wild River Campaign in general and in particular the Wild River Photo Competition, Day on a Wild River in Nov and to encourage clubs to assist in the wide distribution of the November F & B magazine which would emphasise Wild Rivers

There was discussion about the value of a poster and it was agreed that this should be developed within the overall budget allocation to this campaign

THAT the sum of \$5000 be allocated from the Campaigns budget towards an FMC contribution to a Wild Rivers Campaign

Quentin Duthie / Dennis Page

CARRIED

### **3.5 *High Country***

There was a discussion over recent political developments impinging on High Country Tenure Review. Particular reference was made to

the Fish & Game attempt to gain a ruling from the High Court relating to access  
the recent Court decision on assessment of rentals applying to Minaret Station  
the Parliamentary Commission for the Environment's recent decision  
the Government's decision to allow lakeside frontage land to be part of the TR process  
the intention of the present Government to use covenants more frequently

It was agreed that David Round, Rob & Brian would work on developing an updated position paper for the FMC on the High Country . Additional input to come from Owen, Quentin & Mike Floate

It was further agreed that this did not warrant a campaign being set up at this point.

Rob Mitchell to coordinate this paper

### **3.6 *Recreation Spending***

Richard Davies spoke to his paper which reported on a meeting with DoC in which the issue of DoC being obliged to reduce its back country spending in order to find funds for front country Tourism

Richard agreed to draft a paper with specific recommendations for FMC – additional comment from Robin & Rob

### 3.7 *Reports from Advocacy Standing Committees*

#### 3.7.1 *National*

Rob reported on

(a) Meetings held

The meeting he and David Round had had with Kate Wilkinson (Assoc Min Conservation)  
The meeting of Walking Access Commission Stakeholders  
The meeting with Office of Treaty Settlements had to be postponed

(b) Safety in Mountains

There appears to be confusion about the state of this review which was originally discussed at a Tourism Forum, picked up by Mountain Safety and is apparently now with DoC. President to contact Mike Davies at DoC to ascertain the current situation of this review.

(c) SPARC

The SPARC document stating their Outdoor Recreation Strategy had been published the previous week. Insufficient time for members to absorb it but all Exec members were encouraged to read it soon.

AGREED Robin McNeill to draft a letter to SPARC indicating a willingness to engage with them in promoting leadership and associated issues in Outdoor Recreation

#### 3.7.2 *Northern*

(a) The proposed Principles for Outdoor Recreational Opportunities paper prepared by Viv Milne was discussed (Attached as an appendix to these minutes)

AGREED That clause 12 referring to use of cooking shelters be deleted.

That clause 14 be reworded as follows.

Commercial use of tracks, facilities and opportunities be limited to the least of:

- (i) The physical environment carrying capacity
- (ii) The social environment and crowding limits appropriate to user expectations
- (iii) Safety limits

AGREED That the proposals as amended be approved for submitting to the Northern Forum and that a final policy statement be prepared following discussion at the Northern Forum.

(b) Viv Milnes paper on Kaimanawa Access was received and discussed briefly.

MOVED:

1. THAT walking access between the east and west portions of the Kaimanawa Forest Park be referred to the Walking Access Commission.
2. THAT when FMC gives suggestions to the Director General, DoC, regarding outdoor recreation in the northern North Island, the loss of multi-day tramps in the centre of the North Island be brought to his notice.
3. THAT FMC continue to monitor the access situation in the central Kaimanawas.

Quentin Duthie / Phil Glasson

CARRIED

### **3.7.3 Central**

The proposal to put part of the Te Araroa walkway down the Oriwa Ridge was discussed.

Noted that this is a remote experience area and we believe it should be retained as it is the only remote experience area in the Tararuas. The trip would be a two day trip and is a medium/fit level of tramping trip which is not considered compatible with Te Araroa walks

AGREED That the FMC does not support the proposal to use the Oriwa Ridge for the Te Araroa walkway and will advise DoC accordingly.

Owen to prepare the submission.

### **3.7.4 Southern**

- (a) Noted that the submission on WARO Concessions had been made. The DoC Staff from Canterbury have asked to meet us in Wellington to discuss this. Owen offered to be available.
- (b) Noted that NZAC is developing a paper on bolting ethics.
- (c) Nothing to report from High Country Coalition
- (d) Hurunui Dam RMA application. Quentin offered to prepare an FMC submission

## **3.8 Other Advocacy**

### **3.8.1 2010 Conference**

Rob spoke briefly to his paper on the proposed 2010 Conference. The paper outlined the historical background to FMC conferences in the past and invited suggestions for a theme, speakers, venue to be sent to him. Rob will then prepare a more detailed proposal for the November meeting.

### **3.8.2 Big Game Council**

David Round's report on the initial stakeholders meeting was received. No action required at this stage.

### **3.8.3 Mountain Safety Council**

MOVED THAT Phil Glasson replace Rob Mitchell as the FMC nominee on the MSC Council and that the FMC endorse Phil Glasson's nomination for the Executive of MSC

Graeme Lythgoe / Dennis Page

CARRIED

### **3.8.4 LandSAR**

Noted that constitutional changes had been notified for LandSAR. These have not been circulated to the Executive so no discussion could be held.

### **3.8.5 Mountain Biking**

Barbara Morris's report on Mountain Biking was received No action required

### **3.8.6 Walking Access Commission**

Brian reported briefly on recent activities of Walking Access Commission

A contract has been let to provide access mapping software on the WAC Website

An inventory of access issues is being established. Clubs to be encouraged to make us aware of issues.

### **3.8.7 NZ Conservation Authority**

Brian reported            The Bay of Plenty Draft CMS has gone back to the Conservancy in light of the rearrangement of Conservancy Boundaries

The West Coast draft CMS is progressing smoothly

**3.8.8 Treaty Settlements**

Owen's paper had been circulated. The following recommendations were put:

1. THAT the paper be received, including the basis of our interest already being in our objectives.
2. THAT FMC does not develop a fixed position on Treaty settlements in general. The Government is committed to them, we are in a position of responding.
- 3 THAT FMC only take positions in response to individual settlements when these affect key interests of our membership and that this be done on a case by case basis.

Owen Cox / Quentin Duthie

CARRIED

**3.8.9 Weather Forecasting**

The paper prepared by DoC to support a case to Government for increased funding was received and it was AGREED that we support this proposal

MEETING CLOSED at 4:45pm

Confirmed as a True and Correct Record

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Date

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