

HERBERT RIVER IMPROVEMENT TRUST

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

***Thursday 7th March 2019
at 9.00 am***



A. ATTENDANCE – Present were Mrs LF Carr (Secretary), Cr AJ Lancini (Member), Cr WG Skinner (Acting Chair/Member), Mr GB Accornero (Member), Mr KT Phillips (Member) and Mr T Smith (Trust Engineer.)

B. APOLOGY – Mr RA Bosworth (Chair)

C. MINUTES - Confirmation of minutes of the General Meeting held on 15th February 2019.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be approved.
(Mr GB Accornero and Cr AJ Lancini – carried)

D. WORKS REPORT – The Trust Engineer, Mr Tim Smith, provided an update of works for the month of February.

RESOLVED – That the Trust Engineer draft a letter (to be provided to the Secretary to be sent to each concerned land owner) which is to include details of the site inspected, a brief description of the works which needs to be done, and a cost estimate of the works required for each site.
(Mr GB Accornero and Cr WG Skinner – carried)

E. CORRESPONDENCE –

1. EMAIL FROM PAUL SARTOR

Consideration of email received 18 February 2019 regarding a washout/slump in the high bank of Anabran on his Macknade farm (where the river overflow changes direction flows through Anabran), with him requesting an inspection by the Trust.

RESOLVED – That it is intended that an inspection be done of the site as soon as possible.
(Mr KT Phillips and Cr AJ Lancini – carried)

2. EMAIL FROM SARAH MARTIN

Consideration of email received 18 February 2019 regarding two areas of concern (erosion/slips) on her cane farming properties at Long Pocket, with an inspection of the sites by the Trust being requested.

RESOLVED – That the Secretary advise Sarah that an inspection will be done of the sites at the end of the wet season.

(Mr GB Accornero and Cr WG Skinner – carried)

3. EMAIL FROM RAMON GOITIANDIA

Consideration of email received 25 February 2019 regarding damage to creek beds on his Macknade farm, requesting an estimate from the Trust of the repairs required. He is going to make an application for “Category C” funding for an amount of \$93 500, and he looks forward to further correspondence from the Trust regarding this matter.

RESOLVED – That the site was inspected on 6 March and that the Trust Secretary provide advice regarding the works required at the site and an estimation of the cost of the works, in writing.

(Mr KT Phillips and Cr AJ Lancini – carried)

4. EMAIL FROM THE DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY

Consideration of email received 26 February 2019 regarding QLD Disaster Resilience Funding, with applications now open. The funding will be administered by the Qld Reconstruction Authority (QRA), with applications closing 18 April 2019.

RESOLVED – That the Trust Engineer consider some options, to bring to the next Trust meeting.

(Cr WG Skinner and Mr GB Accornero – carried)

5. EMAIL FROM SANTO SPAMPINATO

Consideration of email received 4 March 2019 attaching a letter and photos of damage on his farm, a section of Frances Creek, at 284 Pappin’s Road, Helen’s Hill, and requests an inspection by the Trust.

RESOLVED – That the Trust Secretary advise Santo that an inspection of the site will be conducted in due course.

(Cr AJ Lancini and Mr GB Accornero – carried)

6. EMAIL FROM MARIO PORTA

Consideration of email received 5 March 2019, attaching photos of damage to his farm at 192 Capra’s Road, Abergowrie. Mario would like to discuss the matter with the Trust on “moving forward on repairs to river banks”.

RESOLVED – That the Trust Engineer will speak to Mario to advise him about methodologies and costs, with the works requiring additional external funding.

(Mr GB Accornero and Cr AJ Lancini – carried)

7. EMAIL FROM HSC

Consideration of email received 6 March 2019, from Karlye Rhodes, attaching correspondence in relation to maintenance of pipes in River Avenue, Halifax. The letter, from James Stewart, Executive Manager Infrastructure Services Delivery (dated 5 March 2019) is in relation to River Avenue flooding, with the letter stating:

- Council has received correspondence from 15 River Avenue resident Jennifer Genrich expressing concerns in relation to drainage pipe outlets which she believes are not properly working and require urgent attention, and
- As the outlets have been identified as Trust assets, the Trust is the responsible authority to further action and comment.

RESOLVED – That a Trust representative will repair the flood gate and the pipe discharge from their flood pump.

(Cr AJ Lancini and Mr GB Accornero – carried)

8. LETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Consideration of a letter attached to an email received 6 March 2019, from Peter Clarke (Chief of Staff) advising that as the matters raised by the Trust (regarding “Category D” assistance for land owner contributions in the Hinchinbrook Shire) fall within the portfolio of the Honourable Cameron Dick MP, the correspondence received by the Trust has been forwarded to his office for consideration and reply.

RESOLVED – That the letter be received and noted.

(Mr GB Accornero and Cr AJ Lancini – carried)

9. LETTER FROM QLD RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY (QRA)

Consideration of letter dated 21 January 2019, regarding the Trust’s request for funding for the modification of the Halifax Flood Mitigation Levee, stating the Qld Government will fund an amount of \$390 780.00 (excl. GST) in State funding for the project, with the 2018-19 Program Guidelines being enclosed.

RESOLVED – That the agreement papers be completed and returned.

(Cr AJ Lancini and Mr GB Accornero – carried)

10. LETTER FROM AP and DR CARR (OAKLEIGH FARMING CO.)

Consideration of letter received 6 March 2019, with Peter and Rex asking whether the following work would come under Trust control or would it be covered by the Disaster Recovery Grants available from the Qld Government:

- In the recent flood event, the river overtopped the levees over a considerable distance adjacent to their farm below Mona Landing. They believe that the levees were built after the 1967 flood to stabilise the bank, and consider that it would be beneficial to reinstate the washed sections to original height.

RESOLVED – That the Trust Secretary advise Peter and Rex that an inspection will be carried out at the site and that a cost estimate and description of the works required will be done.

(Cr AJ Lancini and Mr GB Accornero – carried)

F. BUSINESS –

1. LEGAL FEES – VINCE AND MONICA VITALE

The Vitales incurred legal fees as a result of being advised by DNRME to obtain legal advice regarding their name being used on a vegetation clearing application (with the Department) for their land at Ripple Creek.

RESOLVED – The Trust has a sound working relationship with the Vitale’s, and in the interest of maintaining the relationship it is resolved that the legal fees be paid by the Trust.

(Mr GB Accornero and Cr AJ Lancini – carried)

2. RESIGNATION – MR KT PHILLIPS - EFFECTIVE “THE APRIL MEETING”

RESOLVED – It was acknowledged that Keith has had a lengthy association with the Trust and has been a very valuable contributor to the Trust and that his resignation be received.

(Mr GB Accornero and Cr AJ Lancini – carried)

3. STEVEN AND ANTHONY CASTORINA

The Castorina’s voiced their concerns about the impact the Halifax Levee has on their property and questioned why funding has been received to modify the Levee when funds could be used elsewhere, for instance, in the Herbert River itself (sand islands). They also raised concerns about a rock wall that exists in a section along the Herbert River, in Halifax.

RESOLVED – That the Trust investigate the status of the rock wall.

(Cr AJ Lancini and Mr GB Accornero – carried)

4. SMEC – BRIAN MILANOVIC, AARON CASSIDY AND MARK HAUSFELD

The above-mentioned representatives from SMEC gave a brief summary of the work they have completed in the Hinchinbrook Shire and on flood levees, and outlined their capability and capacity in relation to levee works.

5. PASSING OF MR TERRY FENOGLIO

Cr AJ Lancini advised members of the recent passing of Terry.

G. FINANCIAL BUSINESS –

1. Seeking approval for payment of the following accounts as at 7th March 2019:

T Smith & Assoc. Pty Ltd	\$3 069.00
Lahtinen Electrical	198.00
Mr RA Bosworth	434.40
Cr AJ Lancini	300.00
Mr GB Accornero	308.88
Cr WG Skinner	300.00
Mr KT Phillips	322.20
Australia Post	130.00 Paid 07/03/2019
Luke Rosadi	287.50
Ergon Energy	84.55 Paid 15/02/2019
Terrain	5 500.00 (held over)

RESOLVED – That the accounts be passed for payment.

(Mr KT Phillips and Mr GB Accornero – carried)

H. CONCLUSION – The meeting concluded at 1.35 pm with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday 4 April 2019 at Council Chambers.

Cr WG Skinner
Acting Trust Chair