**CAITHNESS DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING: 8 MARCH 2019**

**Present**

Chairman: Lord Thurso

Members: J Mackay, A MacAuslan, SWM Threipland, SWD Laird, M Newton, R Willis, I Cormack and

D Mackay

Officers: A Youngson and M Blackwood

Observer: None

**1. Register of Interests**

No change.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies received: Sir Richard Dunbar and E McCarthy.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 18 were approved.

**a)** FMS – Chairman wrote to FMS as instructed, no response received, to be chased before next meeting on 21 June 19.

**4. Finance and Admin**

**a) 2017 Draft Accounts**

The draft Expenditure & Income accounts and the Balance Sheet were approved, with corrected figures, to be formally presented at the Proprietors’ AGM in June.

**b) 2018 Draft Estimates**

The draft Estimates were considered and approved in principle. It was recommended that the assessment rate remain at 17p in the £, as per previous year.

Discussion was had regarding £2,000 for leader project, this is to be taken out as not needed. £2,000 is to be added to research expenses to ensure sufficient funds.

Recent Grant from Scottish Government of £7,521 re ‘Project: Deployment of Temperature Loggers and Collection of Associated Data’ was cleared into bank account on 20 February 2019.

**c) Consultation activity**

**i.** SEPA re works in connection with A9 Berriedale Braes – Anson MacAuslan declared interest, took no part in conversation. Action: Consultant informed of problems and advised. Letter was sent to SEPA requesting pollution plan.

**ii.** FMS re Eel survey – Action: Consultant

**iii.** Forest Enterprise re Caithness land and management plan – Action: Chairman suggested for consultant to write letter in draft and circulate to board for any further comments.

**iiii.** RPS Group re Scrabster Harbour – Action: Consultant to pass on draft reply to Board for comments.

**5. Consultant’s Report**

a) Grading and MSS EF – Completed and same to apply for 2 years. Back to Grade 1. Special thanks to consultant.

b) Marine Scotland 2019 Amendment Regulations – Advised for board to read

c) CDSFB EF Report –Approved and to be published on CDSFB website

d) Emergence of Pink Salmon was discussed and agreed to be monitored going forward

e) Future of board’s needs - agreed with consultant to be discussed further

**6. Flow Country Rivers Trust Report**

The Trust’s 2018 annual report had been circulated to inform board members about recent activities and future plans and Newsletter also distributed.

**7. Bailiff Report**

Chairman read note from Bailiff re no return to costal netting, not seen as huge threat. No need to hire costal boat but to consider regular “clifftop” appearances will deal with any problems.

**8. Any other business**

None

**9. Meeting dates**

The Proprietors AGM was fixed for 2 pm on Friday 21 June, with the next board meeting to follow on afterwards.