

**Minute Book of the Hutt River District Board 1879 to 07 Sep 1899**  
Hutt City Archives Reference ARCH68271

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- 1879 Mar 12 First meeting held at the Wellington District Highway Board Office, Hutt at 7 p.m.  
Present – S. R. Johnson, Peter Bruce, W. B. Buick, Thomas Mason  
Proposed Bruce, Seconded Buick – that Mr Thomas Mason be Chairman – carried
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Buick – that the next meeting of the Board be held at the Highway Board Office Hutt on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> April next at one o'clock p.m. - carried
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- 1879 Apr 02 Present – Mason, chairman; Johnson, Buick, Bruce, Speedy  
Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried  
Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy – that this meeting be adjourned until Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 7 p.m. – carried
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- 1879 Apr 07 Present – all members
- Proposed Bruce, Seconded Johnson – that a rate of one shilling in the pound be levied on Section Nos 52, 28, 49, 46, 38, 35, 32, 29, 25, 21, 31, 17, 37, 9, 11, 8, 33 and the northern part of Section No.34. Also on part Section Nos 64, 63, 62, 61, 59, 58, 56 and 55 lying between the Main Road and the River Hutt. Also on the parts of Section Nos 187, 60, 54, 57, 51, 48, 75 and 24 lying between the Railway and River Hutt. Also on the part of Section No.18 between Waiwetu road and the river and that a rate to be levied of three pence in the pound on the remainder of the district – carried
- Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy – that the Chairman be authorised to furnish copies of the resolutions rating the district to the Wellington District Highway Board and to the Lower Hutt Local Board – and to request them to take the necessary steps to collect the rate within their respective districts – carried
- Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that the ordinary meetings be held on the first Wednesday in every month at the Office of the Wellington District Highway Board at one p.m. – carried

Evening Post 08 Apr 1879

The Hutt River Board of Conservators held an adjourned meeting at 7 o'clock last evening. Present, Messrs Mason (in the chair), Johnson, Prouse, Buick and Speedy. It was resolved "that a rate of one shilling in the £ be levied on certain sections including those lying between the main road and the river Hutt; between the railway and the river Hutt; and between the Waiwetu road and the river; and that a rate be levied of threepence in the £ on the remainder of the district." It was also resolved "that the Chairman be authorised to furnish copies of the resolution rating the district to the Wellington District Highway Board, and the Lower Hutt Local Board, and to request them to take the necessary steps to collect the rate within their respective districts." It was decided that the ordinary meetings be held on the first Wednesday in every month, at the office of the Wellington District Highway Board, at 1 p.m.

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1879 May 07 Present – Thomas Mason, chairman; Johnson, Buick, Bruce, Speedy  
Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried

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1879 Sep 03 Meeting of Conservators of Hutt River District held at the Toll House, Lower Hutt  
Present – T. Mason, Chairman; Speedy, Johnson, Buick, Bruce

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that an account in the name of "The Board of Conservators for the Hutt River District" be opened with the Bank of New Zealand, Lower Hutt – carried

Proposed Bruce, Seconded Buick – that Mr Thomas Mason be appointed Treasurer – carried

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1879 Sep 12 Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Johnson, Speedy, Bruce, Buick  
Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed

Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that this Board accept the sum of £172 19s 4d handed over by the Hutt County Council for the purpose of expenditure in protective work for the Hutt Bridge – carried

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that Mr William Jones be appointed Clerk – carried

Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the amount (as shewn by District) of £60 11s 6d for labour expended upon the Hutt Bridge protective works be paid and also £1 for stamps – carried

J. Browne	Labour	26 days	12s	£15 12s
George Coolie	Labour	10 days	7s	£3 10s
B. Mudgeway	Labour	21½ days	7s	£7 10s 6d
G. England	Labour	20 days	7s	£7
A. Compton	Labour	22½ days	7s	£7 17s 6d
H. Coolie	Labour	22 days	7s	£7 14s
J. Copeland	Labour	21½ days	7s	£7 10s 6d
Charles Doyle	Labour	9 days	7s	£3 3s
J. Moore	Labour	2 days	7s	14s
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Total				£60 11s 6d
Stamps				£1

Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the Chairman be instructed to procure the necessary stationery and requisites for the carrying on of the business of the Board – carried

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1879 Oct 01 Present – T. Mason, Chairman; Buick, Johnson, Speedy, Bruce  
Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed

Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy – that the amount of £49 12s for labour be paid as follows - carried  
Hutt Bridge protective works from 30<sup>th</sup> August to 27<sup>th</sup> September

Joseph Browne	Foreman	22 days at 12s	£13 4s
B. Mudgeway	Labour	17¾ days at 7s	£6 4s 3d
G. England	Labour	18¼ days at 7s	£6 7s 9d
A. Compton	Labour	16¾ days at 7s	£5 17s 3d
H. Coolie	Labour	16¾ days at 7s	£5 17s 3d
J. Copeland	Labour	17¼ days at 7s	£6 0s 9d
C. Doyle	Labour	17¼ days at 7s	£6 0s 9d

Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the overseer be requested to furnish the Clerk with the accounts for time of the workman and himself each day – carried

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that Mr Johnson be authorised to direct the works at the Hutt Bridge

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1879 Oct 22 Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Johnson, Speedy  
Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed

Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the sum of £29 16s 3d be passed for wages on the Hutt Bridge protective works as per list below – carried

Jos <sup>h</sup> Browne		12½ days at 12s	£7 10s
Benjamin Mudgway		11¾ days at 7s	£4 2s 3d
George England		10¼ days at 7s	£3 11s 9d
A. Compton		10½ days at 7s	£3 13s 6d
H. Cooley		10¾ days at 7s	£3 15s 3d
J. Elliott		10¾ days at 7s	£3 15s 3d
C. Clarkson		9¾ days at 7s	£3 8s 3d

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1879 Oct 31	Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Johnson, Speedy, Bruce, Buick Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed															
	Proposed Bruce, Seconded Johnson – that the following sums be paid for labour &c Hutt Bridge protective works - carried															
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>S. Parsons</td> <td>for piles</td> <td>£12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G. McIlvride</td> <td>ironwork</td> <td>£11 8s 7d</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dawson &amp; Co.</td> <td>chain</td> <td>£1 2s 8d</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A. Collett</td> <td>ironwork</td> <td>£26 5s 5d</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B. Pringle</td> <td>tools</td> <td>5s 6d</td> </tr> </table>	S. Parsons	for piles	£12	G. McIlvride	ironwork	£11 8s 7d	Dawson & Co.	chain	£1 2s 8d	A. Collett	ironwork	£26 5s 5d	B. Pringle	tools	5s 6d
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A. Collett	ironwork	£26 5s 5d														
B. Pringle	tools	5s 6d														
	Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the following account be paid – General account – Blundell Bros advertising etc £2 16s 3d – carried															
	Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that Mr Speedy be authorised to take such measures as may be requested to protect the road opposite the property of Mr Hobbs and that the County Engineer be instructed to invite the Lower Hutt Local Board to bear one half the expense – carried															

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1879 Dec 19	Present – Mr Speedy, Chairman; Johnson, Buick, Bruce Proposed Johnson, Seconded Buick – that Mr Speedy take the Chair in the absence of Mr Mason – carried Proposed Bruce, Seconded Buick – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed - carried												
	Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the following accounts be paid - carried												
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Benjamin Mudgeway</td> <td>Labour &amp;c</td> <td>£5 7s 9d</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G. England</td> <td>Labour &amp;c</td> <td>£3 5s</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R. Apps</td> <td>Cartage</td> <td>£3 18s</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Protective work opposite Mr Hobbs</td> </tr> </table>	Benjamin Mudgeway	Labour &c	£5 7s 9d	G. England	Labour &c	£3 5s	R. Apps	Cartage	£3 18s	Protective work opposite Mr Hobbs		
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- 1880 Feb 04 Present – Buick, Johnson, Speedy, Bruce & Mason, Chairman  
 Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried
- Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy - that the following accounts be paid – carried  
 Lyon and Blair £2 12s 6d; New Zealander 19s 6d; George England 6s 6d
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Buick – that tenders be called for two additional lengths to be added to the floating dam, and also for removing snags and cutting race near the Bridge to be sent in on or before the 18<sup>th</sup> instant at 1.30 p.m. – carried
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- 1880 Feb 18 Present – Bruce, Buick & Mason, Chairman  
 Proposed Buick, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried  
 Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that the tender of W. F. Oakes for £79 10s be accepted for breakwater at Taita – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that accounts as per list amounting to £12 14s 3d be paid - carried
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|----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| B. Mudgeway    | Labour          | £5 10s 6d |
| George Scadden | Labour          | £1 15s 9d |
| B. G. Scadden  | Labour          | £2 2s     |
| W. Cudby       | Cartage, Labour | £3 6s     |
- Mr Riddiford's letter asking that certain protective works be done near his property to stand over to next meeting of the board
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- 1880 Apr 07 Present – Buick, Speedy, Johnson, Bruce & Mason, chairman  
Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed - carried
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the agreement entered into between W. F. Oakes and Messrs Buick, Bruce & Johnson – that Mr Oakes should for an additional sum of £21 place the floating dam at Taita at the Clay Point on Mr Mason’s land be ratified – carried – [Note in pencil – paid 13 Apr 1880]
- Proposed Buick, Seconded Johnson – that the sum of £20 paid by Mr Jones by mistake to the account of Hutt River Conservators Board be transferred to the credit of the Wellington District Highway Board – carried
- Proposed Bruce, Seconded Buick – that the amount of W. F. Oake’s contract for floating dam at Taita be paid (£79 10s) – carried
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that a bonus of £7 10s be given to Mr Jones as an acknowledgement for his services – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the petition of Messrs Cooper, Barber and others stand over for consideration until next meeting – carried
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1880 Jun 02 Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Buick, Bruce, Speedy  
Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried

The application of Messrs Cooper and others and also that of Mr Riddiford's to stand over for consideration at next meeting.  
The consideration of the refund of rates to ratepayers on sections 59, 61, 62, 63, 64 to be considered next meeting.

Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that all the rates from Stillings inclosure down the Western Bank between the Railway and the river, less the amount already expended near Hobbs and proportion of expenses be placed at the disposal of the Engineer and Messrs Speedy & Buick conjointly for protective works on the Western Bank with authority to call for tenders or execute such works as they may deem necessary to that amount – carried

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that the rates, less the amount already expended on protective works near the Bridge and share of expenses collected on Section 32 on that part situated on the western side of Cooleys road, Section 29, 25, 21, McNab's property. Sections 11 and 9 and all the other properties between them and the river be expended in works on the Eastern Bank of the river – and the Engineer be authorised to call for tenders or to execute such works as may be necessary, subject to the approval of the Commissioners - carried

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1881 Feb 02 Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Speedy, Buick, Bruce  
Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried

Proposed Buick, Seconded Bruce – that the sum of £50 be added to the £100 voted by the Hutt County Council for additional protective works to the Hutt Bridge and that the Engineers be instructed to prepare plans and call for tenders – carried

Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy – that the sum of £25 be expended on protective works near Mrs Johnson's property subject to the approval of the Board & Engineer - carried

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the Engineer be instructed to lower the logs in the floating dam provided the expense does not exceed £10 - carried

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1881 Feb 23 Present – Mr Johnson in the chair; Buick, Bruce, Speedy  
 Proposed Buick, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that J. Edwards account for lowering Booms of Floating Dam Hutt Bridge £5 18s be paid and also F. Cooper's account £4 10s for planting willows on River Bank be paid – carried


Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the tender of Rob. Lyon for Floating Dam at Hutt Bridge for the sum of £99 labour and material be accepted – carried

1881 Mar 02 Present – Mr Mason, Chairman; Speedy, Johnson, Buick  
 Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried

Proposed Johnson, Seconded Buick – that J. Clement be appointed to oversee the work at the floating dam – carried

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the balance of the money voted for the floating dam be expended in erecting another nearer the bridge, the arrangement for the erection to be left in the hands of the Engineer – carried

Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy – that a sum not exceeding £30 be expended on protecting the banks of the river at the first gorge – carried



Hutt River Board Office,  
 Hutt, 17th February, 1881.

**A**LTERNATE TENDERS will be received up to noon of Wednesday, the 23rd inst., for the Construction of a Floating Dam at Lower Hutt, for labor and materials, and labor only.

Plans and specifications may be seen at Mr. Jos. Brown's Store, Lower Hutt.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

W. A. FITZHERBERT,  
 Engineer to Board.

Evening Post 22 Feb 1881

Evening Post 03 Mar 1881

A meeting of the Hutt River Board of Conservators was held at the Lower Hutt yesterday. Present – Messrs Speedy, Buick, Johnson, and T. Mason. The business was trifling, and the meeting only lasted a few minutes. Mr J. Clements was appointed to oversee the work at the floating dam. It was resolved that the balance of the money voted for the floating dam be expended in making another nearer the bridge; the arrangements for the erection to be left in the hands of the engineer. A sum, not exceeding £30, was voted for the purpose of protecting the banks of the river at the first gorge.

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1881 Apr 06	Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Bruce, Johnson Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried
	Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the following sum amounting to £170 7s 2d be paid
	Rob Lyon                      Erecting Dam as per contract near Hutt Bridge                      £99
	New Zealand Times              Advertising                      15s 2d
	John Clement                      Overseer                      12s
	Hutt County Council              Half share of protective works 1 <sup>st</sup> gorge                      £30
	Mr Jones                      Bonus as Clerk to Board                      £5
	W. A. Fitzherbert              Bonus as Engineer to Board                      £10
	E. J. Riddiford                      Protective works erected on Mrs Johnson's property                      £25

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1881 Jun 01	Present – Mr Mason, Chairman; Speedy, Johnson, Buick Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy – that the sum of £6 15s be paid to Robert Lyon for labour on Western Bank of River Hutt – carried
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- 1881 Aug 21 Evening Post – The Hutt River – Letter to the Editor  
Sir, Following the text of an article that appeared in your issue of the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, regarding waste of money in doing certain works in the Empire City, I may write:- The way our money is thrown away at the Hutt may be seen by paying a visit to the river and examining it from the bridge site upwards for about a mile of its course, paying particular attention *en route* to the recent works that have been constructed with a view, it is presumed, of protecting the river banks or of training its course. Within sight of the bridge will be seen a couple of arrangements of floating spars, put up at considerable expense, but, from their nature and position, doing as little towards the accomplishment of the presumed object in view as it was possible, with the outlay of the amount expended, to have gained. Further up the river, opposite the house built by Mr Beatson, are scattered the remains of an expensively-made groin, towards the construction of which, by a private gentleman, it is reported that the Hutt River Conservancy Board contributed a considerable sum. This groin was made just before the set-in of the rainy season, but, from the fact of the most elementary principles of construction as regards foundations having been carefully avoided, the structure began to be washed away by the first freshet that came down the river. In cases in which public money is contributed towards works of the kind, to be expended by private parties, it is usual, to ensure the best return being received for the money granted, to have the project scrutinised by a competent professional man, and on his approval to have the work carried out under his direction and control. Had this common-sense course been adopted here, a waste of public money would not have ensued, and a structure might possibly have been erected which would have done some good during the present season. On the whole, it appears extremely good natured of the Hutt River Board to grant sums of money and to allow the river they have under their control to be made the field of amateur engineering – experiments of an expensive nature. However, “river training” being a branch of the engineering profession which requires a special study, application, and experience, I would advise and suggest to the Board the advisability of taking the opinion of an engineer of acknowledged capability in the matter before throwing any more money away on the Hutt River waters. I am, &c., Hutt Ratepayer
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- 1881 Oct 05 Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman, Speedy, Buick  
Proposed Buick, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried  
Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that the accounts as per list amounting to £3 5s be paid – carried
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1882 Feb 01 Present – S. R. Johnson in Chair; Buick, Bruce, Speedy  
 Proposed Speedy, Seconded Buick – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried

Tenders received for lengthening floating dam at Hutt Bridge  
 P. M. Reynolds £55; R. Lyon, £54 19s; W. Baylis & Co. £48; F. Lenoury £45

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the tender of F. Lenoury for lengthening floating dam at Hutt Bridge for £45 be accepted – carried

Proposed Buick, Seconded Bruce – that the accounts as per list be paid – carried

George England	Labour	19 days	6s	£5 14s
H. Rumble	Labour	17½ days	6s	£5 5s
W. & C. Cudby	Horse & cart	3 days	10s	£1 10s

1882 Mar 01 Present – Thomas Mason in chair; Speedy, Bruce, Buick  
 Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried

Proposed Buick, Seconded Bruce – that the following sums be paid – carried  
 F. Lenoury £45; George England £4 10s; H. Rumble £4 10s; W. & C. Cudby 10s

Proposed Buick, Seconded Bruce – that permission be given to Mr Hoare to fence in and plant willows in such places as the County Engineer may think suitable for the purpose - carried



**HUTT RIVER BOARD.**

Engineer's Office,  
24th January, 1882.

**TENDERS** will be received by the undersigned up to noon on Tuesday, the 31st inst., for lengthening the floating dam at Lower Hutt.

Specification can be seen at Mr. Joseph Brown's Store, Lower Hutt.

**W. A. FITZHERBERT,**  
County Engineer.

**Evening Post 24 Jan 1882**



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- 1882 Jun 07 Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Speedy, Johnson  
Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the amount received from R. Parker and native owners of £50 be entered to credit of board – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the following amounts be paid amounting to £125 13s 5d - carried  
George England and others for protection works at Gears Island £35 13s 5d; ... Caverhill, protective works at his land £20; Kilmister & Judd, protective works at Parker's land £70
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- 1883 Jan 19 Present – Thomas Mason, Chairman; Bruce, Speedy, Johnson  
Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed - carried
- Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that the sum of £48 13s be paid as per list attached for protective works at the Lower Gorge Hutt – carried. J. Clement £6 3s 6d; C. Hambling £6 3s 6d; H. Rickards £9; G. Hooper £5 15s; W. Terry £9 6s
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that the boundaries of the District be forwarded to Mr Sperrey for the purpose of obtaining a Valuation – carried
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- 1883 Jun 01 Memorandum of Agreement made this day between H. Sundgren and the Board of Conservators of the Hutt River. The Board agrees to let to H. Sundgren the right to cut and plant willows along both sides of the river bank on all vacant places within half a mile from the Hutt Bridge as long as this Board is in existence and paying to the Board the sum of £2 for the first year and £3 for the following years.
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- 1885 Feb 13 Evening Post  
Nomination of candidates for the Hutt River Board will take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, at the Resident Magistrate's Court, Lower Hutt
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- 1885 Feb 23 Evening Post – Hutt River Board Election  
Notice is hereby given that the following persons have been duly nominated as candidates for the Hutt River Board:- Charles William Brown, Peter Bruce, John Cudby, William Alfred Fitzherbert, Samuel Raymond Johnson, Richard Forester Petterd, James Reston Jnr, David Speedy, Hart Udy. There are five vacancies to be filled, and as the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, I hereby appoint a Poll to be taken, as between the several candidates whose names are given above, on Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1885 at the Toll House, Hutt Bridge. Polling will commence at 9 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. William Jones, Returning Officer. Hutt River Board, Hutt, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1885.
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- 1885 Mar 02 Evening Post – Hutt River Board Election  
I hereby give notice that the number of votes polled by each candidate at the above election, held on Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1885 was as follows:- Charles William Brown 131; Peter Bruce 121; John Cudby 46; William Alfred Fitzherbert 50; Samuel Raymond Johnson 109; Richard Forester Petterd 28; James Reston Jnr 83; David Speedy 83; Hart Udy 76. I further give notice that Messrs Brown, Bruce, Johnson, Reston and Speedy, having received the highest number of votes, I declare those gentlemen duly elected Members of the Hutt River Board. The members elected are requested to meet at the Resident Magistrate Court, Lower Hutt, on Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 1885 at 2 o'clock p.m., for holding the first meeting of the Board (as per Gazette notice of 29<sup>th</sup> January 1885). William Jones, Returning Officer, Hutt River Board, Hutt 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1885.
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- 1885 Mar 07 First meeting of Hutt River Board elected 28 February 1885 held at the Resident Magistrate Court, Hutt at 2 p.m.  
 Present – Messrs Brown, Bruce, Speedy, Reston, Johnson  
 Proposed Johnson, Seconded Bruce – that Mr C. W. Brown be elected chairman of Board – carried  
 Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of last meeting of the Old Board be confirmed – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Reston – that Mr Jones be appointed Clerk to the Board and the Highway Office, Hutt the Office of the Board and that the meetings of the Board be held on the second Saturday each month at 2 o'clock p.m. – carried
- Proposed Reston, Seconded Johnson – that the following accounts be passed for payment amounting to £11 14s 3d
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|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| New Zealand Times | Advertising &c    | £3 1s     |
| A. & C. Collett   | Ironworks         | £2 14s 9d |
| Blundell Bros     | Advertising &c    | £3 8s 6d  |
| W. Jones          | Election expenses | £2 10s    |
- Proposed Reston, Seconded Bruce – that the amount in hand £258 6s 5d (less £11 14s 3d passed for payment today) £246 12s 2d be divided as follows:- £100 to be spent in that part of the District above Frys but not including his property and one half of the balance £73 6s 1d to be spent in the part of the District from and including Frys to the Hutt Bridge; and the remainder £73 6s 1d from the Hutt Bridge to the mouth of the river. Current expenses of the Board to be deducted pro rata – carried
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the Board will supplement the owners of property by a Grant in aid for protective works, to a reasonable extent, subject to the approval of the Board to the work proposed to be done – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that all cheques be signed by the Chairman and one other member of the Board and countersigned by the Clerk of the Board – carried
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- 1885 Apr 11 Present – Mr Brown in the Chair; Reston, Johnson, Speedy, Bruce  
Proposed Speedy, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that Messrs Johnson and Reston be authorised to expend £45 below the bridge in such work as they think fit but including £20 contribution to the Gear Meat Company in protection works and £10 planting willows at Alicetown. The Balance of their allotment (as per resolution of 7<sup>th</sup> March of £73 6s 1d) to be divided as follows – Upper Ward £13; Middle Ward £10; General Expenses £5 6s 1d – carried
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Reston – that Messrs Brown and Bruce be authorised to expend £108 in the Upper Ward as follows: Mr Mr Death's property £25; on Mrs Meech's property £50; on Mr Milne's property £20 and in planting willows £13 – carried
- Proposed Johnson, Seconded Reston – that Messrs Speedy and Mason be authorised to expend in the Middle Ward the sum of £78 including £15 in protecting a right of Road to the Western Hutt – carried
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- 1885 May 09 Present – W. C. Brown, chairman; Johnson, Speedy, Bruce, Reston  
Proposed Bruce, Seconded Johnson – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Reston – that the following accounts be paid – carried
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|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Gear Meat Company | for protective works below the bridge | £20   |
| S. Death          | for protective works Upper Ward       | £25   |
| J. Pringle & Co.  | for protective works Middle Ward      | £9 1s |
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1885 Jun 13	Present – W. C. Brown, chairman; Speedy, Reston, Bruce, Johnson Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried	
	Proposed Reston, Seconded Speedy – that the following accounts amounting to £74 17s 3d be passed for payment – carried	
	W. Milne	for protective works on Welch's property £40
	J. Pringle & Co.	for protective works Middle Ward £4 16s
	Harnish & Co.	for protective works Upper Ward Milne's portion £1 4s
	Harnish & Co.	for protective works Upper Ward – willows £9 14s 9d
	Harnish & Co.	for protective works Middle Ward £3 18s
	Blundell Bros	advertising 4s 6d
	W. A. Fitzherbert	for protective works Middle Ward £15

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1885 Jul 11	Present – C. W. Brown, Chairman; Speedy, Bruce Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried	
	Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the following accounts be passed for payment amounting to £7 15s	
	Harnish & Co.	Willow planting Upper Ward £3 6s
	J. Pringle & Co.	Labour Middle Ward £2 8s
	R. Cleland	Bags for Middle Ward £2 1s

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1885 Sep 12 Present – C. W. Brown, Chairman; Reston, Speedy, Johnson, Bruce  
Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed – carried

An application was received from Messrs Strachan, Whiting, Kelley and Barber on behalf of Alicetown settlers for certain works to be done in willow planting on banks of Hutt River. Proposed Reston, Seconded Bruce – that a Grant in aid of £10 be given to Messrs Strachan, Whiting, Kelley & Barber for willow planting &c on the Banks of the Hutt River at Alicetown as soon as works completed to satisfaction of Commissioners of Board - carried

An application from Mr F. Cooper was received asking for Groins or floating dams be erected below the Hutt Bridge. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr F. Cooper and inform him that £10 has been granted to Messrs Strachan, Whiting, Kelley and Barber in aid of willow planting at Alicetown, that being the whole of the funds at the disposal of the Board.

Proposed Johnson, Seconded Speedy – that the following accounts be passed for payment

Mr Caverhill	Willow planting Middle Ward	£5
J. Pringle & Co.	Labour 7½ days Middle Ward	£2 5s
Petone Town Board	For protective works at Moran's creek	£15

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1886 Sep 11 Present – C. W. Brown, Chairman; Speedy, Bruce  
Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried

Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the following accounts be passed for payment

G. H. Welch	for planting willows &c at Welch's Upper Ward	£10
J. Peck	for planting willows (Milne's portion) Upper Ward	£6 16s
J. Tilbury	for planting willows (Milne's portion) Upper Ward	£6
Wm. Cleland	wire and staples (Milne's portion) Upper Ward	£3 11s 4d

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- 1887 Apr 23 Present – C. W. Brown, Chairman; Speedy, Bruce  
Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that the minutes of last meeting be confirmed – carried
- Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that a Grant in aid of £40 be paid to the Committee appointed by the Land owners in Middle Ward (Known as Parkers and Johnsons paddocks) to carry out River Protective works agreed to by Board – carried
- Proposed Bruce, Seconded Speedy – that the amount of £17 6s 7d be paid to Mr Jones, Clerk to the Board for his services – carried
- Proposed Speedy, Seconded Bruce – that the thanks of the Board be voted to Mr Brown – Chairman – for his valuable services, carried
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- 1893 Mar 24 Evening Post – Notice  
A meeting of Ratepayers within the Hutt River Board District will be held at Mr T. Burt's store, Lower Hutt, on Wednesday evening next, the 29<sup>th</sup> instant at 7.30 p.m. for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to elect a Board of Conservators for the district. E. J. Riddiford, W. A. Fitzherbert, James Knight, H. D. O'Callaghan, J. Purdy M.D., G. H. Scales
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1899 Feb 09 Evening Post – The Hutt River Board

The pernicious tendency of the Government to subordinate the affairs of the community to the personal interests of sections of the “right colour,” which is one of the most insidious and demoralising forms of political corruption, appears to be again in evidence. Of late we have had to write with almost brutal plainness of the meaning of the obstruction to the Nelson movement for creation of a National Park, and now it looks as though we have a somewhat similar instance close at hand in the case of the Hutt River Board. The importance and value of the fertile and beautiful valley of the Hutt as a great outlet in the near future for the crowded city cannot be over-estimated. At present, of course, the district is practically inaccessible to city people who would otherwise reside there, because of the slow train service and prohibitory fares; but some day, when Seddonism can find votes in it, or, better still, when it has ceased to rule this country, the Hutt will be made easily and cheaply accessible, and become a splendid suburb, as populous as beautiful. Cheap and easy access will mean, of course, the straightening of the railway, and through express trains. It has already been shown in these columns that the reclaimed land which would result from this work, together with the expansion of traffic that must follow, would make the undertaking profitable, but until there are visible votes or “spoils” in it, or the present Government is deprived of office, nothing will be done. Meanwhile, it is hardly too much to say that the most valuable part of the Hutt Valley is being washed into the sea, and for some inscrutable reason the Premier bars the way of the people most concerned who would prevent this devastation. The story of the Hutt River Trust, or rather the attempt to create it, had prominent place in our columns last year when the movement took shape, and later was endorsed by the Government. What happened then and since is very trenchantly described in the letter of Mr Robert Stevens, published in our issue of yesterday. That gentleman declares the contents of his letter to be true in every particular, and if so, it is not to be wondered at that he writes of the Premier that “we are being bestridden by a Colossus to whom nothing is too small or too great to be controlled or ‘bossed,’ from the billeting of charwomen and telegraph message boys to the ‘burking’ of a Banking Bill or River Board.” Why is it that the Premier bars the way to legitimate request of the people of Hutt Valley to be invested with the legal right to tax themselves to save the district from devastation? On the face of it, and with knowledge of his arbitrary and tortuous methods, we should say he is prepared, if it can be done with impunity, to inflict a public wrong in order to reward political hangers-on, or to punish political opponents. “The tyranny of the ticket” must be maintained, and if the Hutt ratepayers can give satisfactory assurance of their fealty to the Premier, they will be permitted to tax themselves that they may protect their homes and property. We trust, however, that they will instead demand their rights and compel them, and when they are won, as they will be, remember when the time comes how they can best reward the man who now apparently withholds them.

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1899 Feb 17 Evening Post – Local and General

The new Hutt River Board is to consist of five persons. The election has been fixed for 16<sup>th</sup> March, and the first meeting of the Board will be held on the following day. Mr Percy Purser is to be the returning officer.

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 1899 Feb 23 Evening Post – The Hutt River Board

A public meeting of ratepayers in the Hutt River Board district was held in the Hutt Oddfellows' Hall on Tuesday evening, about 200 being present. The chair was occupied by Mr D. Sladden, who said that there appeared to be a minority who thought no good purpose would be effected by the formation of a River Board. This he considered a fallacy. Many troublesome rivers in New Zealand had been brought under control during the past 15 years, and the solution of the difficulty appeared to him to be in confining the river within reasonable limits, and obtaining as straight a course to the sea as possible. He called upon Dr Purdy, convener of the meeting, to read the committee's report. The report reviewed the history of the attempt to obtain a River Board for the district, which had now proved successful. The number of members of the Board was to be five, and the election was to be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, the 8<sup>th</sup> March being nomination day. Investigation by an experienced firm of engineers had satisfied the engineers in question that the Hutt River was by no means beyond control, and at an expenditure that would be well within the means of the district, and small compared with the advantages gained. Mr E. B. Jones, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the committee on having so far brought the question of the formation of a River Board so near completion. The motion was seconded by Mr Caverhill. The Mayor, Mr Foster, one of the committee, said that some comment had been made as to the committee's connection with Mr Meason (the engineer referred to in the report). The committee was in no way bound to that gentleman, who had inspected the river entirely upon his own responsibility. The motion was then put, and unanimously agreed to. The Chairman invited discussion upon the report, but failed to draw any of the opponents of the project. In the course of a discussion which followed, Mr Pearson feared there was opposition still to be met, and he suggested that a selection committee, say of 15, should be formed to select the members of the Board, and that the meeting should pledge itself to vote solid for the committee's choice. Mr Southey said there need be no fear of the imaginary opposition, if men of common sense were selected as candidates for members of the Board. There would be no opposition at all. The Chairman stated that, so far as he was aware, the adoption of the report was all the business they could transact. After further discussion, the meeting ended.

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 1899 Mar 08 Evening Post – Hutt River Board Nominations

Mr P. R. Purser, Returning Officer for the Hutt River District, has received the following nominations for members of the Board:-

D. Balls	nominated by	F. Fisk and T. Minogue
J. Barr	nominated by	G. M. Yerex and H. Hall
W. A. Fitzherbert	nominated by	C. Pole and A. McVinish
W. G. Foster	nominated by	C. Loomes and W. Routley
J. R. Purdy	nominated by	G. A. Pearson, E. P. Bunny, A. Gray, and G. M. Glen
E. J. Riddiford	nominated by	G. McIlvride and T. Burke
D. Sladden	nominated by	H. Phillips and G. A. Chapman
J. Ward	nominated by	T. P. Allan and M. E. Sutton

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1899 Mar 17 Evening Post – Hutt River Board

Our expectation that the election of the first members of the Hutt River Board yesterday would result in the return of Messrs W. A. Fitzherbert, W. G. Foster, D. Sladden, E. J. Riddiford, and Dr Purdy has been realised. The voting was as follows:- W. A. Fitzherbert 243; W. G. Foster 233; D. Sladden 228; E. J. Riddiford 225; J. R. Purdy 218; John Ward 157; David Balls 153; John Barr 143

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1899 Mar 17 Pursuant to a Proclamation dated the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1899; and Gazetted on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 1899 (No.13, 1899) an Election was held at the Lower Hutt Borough Council Chambers on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> March 1899; and the following gentlemen were returned as members of the newly constituted Hutt River District Board – namely Messrs Fitzherbert; Foster; Riddiford; Sladden and Dr Purdy.

Minutes of the first meeting of the Hutt River District Board held at the Lower Hutt Borough Council Office at 8 p.m.

Present – Messrs Fitzherbert, Riddiford, Sladden, Dr Purdy

Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Riddiford and resolved that Mr Dilnot Sladden shall be appointed Chairman of this Board

Mr P. R. Purser was appointed Clerk to the Board – pro tem

The Chairman was requested to write to the Borough Council for permission to use the Council Office for the business of the Board.

Mr Fitzherbert was authorised to procure a tracing of the River District

The Clerk was authorised to obtain six copies of “The River Boards Act 1884” with its amendments

The Chairman was authorised to make enquiries with regard to obtaining the services of a competent Engineer

The Chairman was authorised to interview the Manager of the Bank of New Zealand with a view to the Board obtaining an overdraft till such time as arrangements can be made for collecting a rate.

It was left to the Chairman to call the next meeting of the Board.

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1899 Mar 23 Present – D. Sladden in the Chair; Foster, Fitzherbert, Riddiford, Dr Purdy  
Mr Meason, C. E. waited upon the Board and a general conversation took place with regard to the means to be adopted to conserve the River. Mr Meason having withdrawn the Chairman read a letter from Messrs Meason & Marchant, addressed to Mr Seaton of Wellington explanatory of their experience with regard to rivers in the South of New Zealand and offering to make a detailed survey of the Hutt River for a stated sum. The Chairman also read letters from Mr Talbot and Mr Orbell testifying to the satisfactory manner in which Messrs Meason & Marchant had carried out river protective works for the Geraldine County Council and the Levels County Council respectively. Further consideration of this matter was allowed to stand over.

Mr Ferguson, Secretary to the Wellington Harbour Board, wrote on behalf of a man named Westerby for permission to dredge for boulders and shingle in the Hutt River with a view to opening up a trade with Wellington. Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that Westerby be given permission to dredge for boulders &c in the Hutt River, in terms of Mr Ferguson's letter.

The Lower Hutt Borough Council wrote in reply to the Chairman that the question of the Board using the Borough Office would be considered at the next meeting of the Council and in the meantime the Board might use the Office.

The Returning Officer acting under instructions from the Colonial Secretary forwarded to the Board a protest, signed by Thomas Mason and others against the recent election, alleging an irregularity in the constitution of the River District. Consideration of this matter was allowed to stand over till next meeting.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that Mr P. R. Purser be appointed clerk to the Board at a salary to be arranged.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the Mr E. P. Bunny be appointed Solicitor to the Board at a Retaining Fee to be arranged.

It was resolved to instruct the Solicitor to draft Standing Orders for the guidance of the Board.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the next meeting be held on the first Wednesday in April (5<sup>th</sup> prox) at 8 p.m.

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1899 Apr 05 Present – Sladden, Chairman Fitzherbert, Foster, Dr Purdy  
The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and confirmed

The Solicitor forwarded two copies of draft Standing Orders. It was decided to defer consideration of the Standing Orders till next meeting.

The Chairman read letters in reply which he had received from Messrs Teschemaker, Burnett and Wright respectively with regard to River protective works carried out in other parts of the Colony by Messrs Meason & Marchant. Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that Messrs Meason & Marchant be engaged to make a survey of the Hutt River, in terms of their offer, for the sum of £75. The work to comprise a complete survey of the River within and for one mile beyond the River district, and a full report and plans to be prepared and provided for the Board, other than working plans. The Survey to include complete soundings at and beyond the mouth of the River as far as the deposit of shingle from the River is found. And to submit proposals for protective works in detail, with estimates of cost of construction. And all reports &c to be the property of the Board. And that the probable date of the commencement of the Survey and of its completion be ascertained.

The protest of Thomas Mason and others with regard to the construction of the River District was on the motion of Mr Foster, seconded Mr Fitzherbert ordered to lie on the table. Mr Bunny forwarded a legal opinion with reference to the protest. Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Foster and resolved that the Clerk be instructed to write to Mr Bunny and inform him that he had acted under a misapprehension in sending in an opinion with reference to the protest; no instructions having been given him in the matter; and that the opinion be returned to him.

The Borough Council wrote offering to let the Board use the Borough Office at a rental of £20 per annum, such amount to cover the cost of lighting and firing. Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the terms of the Council for the use of its office be accepted. [Annotation in red pen – rescinded 18 Apr 1899]

Proposed Foster, Seconded Sladden and resolved that a subcommittee to consist of Dr Purdy and Messrs Fitzherbert and Riddiford be appointed to report on the subdivision of the district for differential rating purposes.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the Clerk be authorised to publicly notify, through the Petone Chronicle, the situation of the Boards Office.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the Clerks salary be fixed at £25 per annum, the salary to date from the election of the Board.



Proposed Foster, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that Mr P. R. Purser be appointed Treasurer to this Board.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the Chairman be authorised to arrange with the Bank of New Zealand for an overdraft to the extent of £150 for payment of expenses pending the levying of a rate. And the Board to undertake to, within six months of receiving notice, to levy a rate sufficient to cover the overdraft.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held at 8 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> instant.

Notice of Motion by Mr Foster to move at next meeting – that the Ordinary meetings of the Board be held on the first Tuesday in each month.

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1899 Apr 18 Present – Sladden, Chairman; Fitzherbert, Riddiford, Dr Purdy  
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed

Proposed Riddiford, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the resolution agreeing to pay £20 annually for the use of the Borough Council office be rescinded with a view to the question being reconsidered at the next meeting of the Board. The members of the Board present being unanimous in allowing this motion to be put without notice.

It was decided to further defer consideration of the Standing Orders.

The sub-committee reported recommending that, for rating purposes, the Hutt River District be divided into the following three classes, namely -

Class No.1 Lands liable to great actual damage

The whole of those portions that are included in the River District of Sections 52, 51, 48, 49 & 37; the whole of Sections 46, 38, 35, 32, 29, 25 & 21; those portions lying east of the Wellington Napier Railway line of Sections 75, 28, 24, 20 & 16; the whole of Sections 17, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12; that portion of Section 13 lying west of the Wainui Road and the Waiwetu River; Section 15; and those portions of sections 18 & 22 as indicated on the plan. And that the whole of Class No.1 be coloured pink on the Plan of the District.

Class No.2 Lands liable to less actual damage

That portion of Section 47 included in the district; those portions lying west of the Waiwetu River of Sections 39, 36, 34, 27, 23 & 19; that portion of Section 13 lying between the Waiwetu River and the Wainui Road; the whole of Sections 33, 30 & 26; and those portions of Sections 18 & 22 indicated on the plan. And that the whole of Class No.2 be coloured yellow on the Plan of the District.

Class No.3 Lands directly liable to damage

The whole of Section 225; those portions lying east of the Waiwetū River of Sections 39, 36, 34, 27, 23 & 19; the whole of Sections 14, 238, 239, 240, 77 & 76; and those portions lying west of the Wellington Napier Railway Line of Sections 75, 28, 24, 20 and 16. And that the whole of Class No.3 be coloured blue on the Plan of the District.

[Note: Annotation in red pen "Resolution rescinded 15 Jun 1899"]

Proposed Sladden, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the report of the subcommittee be adopted and that the classification of the district as made in that report be hereby approved.

Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held at 8 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May prox

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1899 May 02 Present – D. Sladden, Chairman; Fitzherbert, Foster, Riddiford, Dr Purdy  
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed

A letter was received from the Bank of New Zealand notifying the approval of the terms offered by the Board for obtaining an advance overdraft to the extent of £150

Miscellaneous correspondence was received from Messrs Meason & Marchant and from Mr Bunny

The question of Office accommodation was then considered. Proposed Riddiford, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the Clerk be instructed to ascertain where and on what terms the Board can get the necessary office accommodation. Mr Foster dissented from the resolution.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that Ordinary meetings of the Board be held at 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday in each month. [Annotation in red pen: "Resolution rescinded 15 Jun 1899"]

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that in Pursuance of the authority given to it by Section 64 of "The River Boards Act 1884" the Hutt River Board hereby resolves that the proceedings and debates at meetings of the Board shall be regulated by the following rules...

The following list of accounts was submitted to the Board and passed for payment subject to the two resolutions following

E. P. Bunny £25; R. Mothes £4 4s; Hutt Petone Chronicle £6 2s 6d; New Zealand Times £2 8s; Evening Post £4 11s 6d; C. M. Banks 14s; H. G. Fitzherbert £1 1s; P. R. Purser £7 9s 6d; T. Fleet £3; Stamps £1; Petty Cash £5; John Devine 12s – total £61 2s 6d

Proposed Foster, Seconded Riddiford and resolved that Mr Bunny's account be left in the hands of the Chairman to arrange with Mr Bunny for his acceptance of £25 in settlement thereof.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that it be left in the hands of the Chairman and Mr Fitzherbert to arrange the amount to be paid to Mr Purser for his services as clerk to the formation committee prior to the Election.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the Clerk be instructed to procure, at the earliest possible moment, a list of the objections to the Classification List, and that a meeting of the Board be held to consider the objections. And that the Chairman be authorised to engage Mr Seaton to report upon the properties objected to.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the Board's account be operated upon by the Treasurer and any Member of the Board. And that the Bank of New Zealand be notified of this Resolution.

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1899 May 16 Special Meeting – Present – Foster, Fitzherbert, Riddiford, Dr Purdy  
Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Riddiford and resolved that Mr Foster shall take the chair pro tem

A letter was received from Mr Sladden covering his resignation as a Member of the Board. Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the resignation of Mr Sladden be accepted with regret.

Proposed Riddiford, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that Mr Foster be elected Chairman of the Board  
Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that Mr P. R. Purser be appointed Returning Officer to the Board

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1899 Jun 06 Present – Foster, Fitzherbert, Sladden, Dr Purdy. The Solicitor also attended. The Clerk reported that Mr Foster had sent in his resignation as Chairman of the Board. Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that Mr Sladden be elected Chairman of this Board.

The minutes of the previous Ordinary and special meetings were read and confirmed

Two letters were received from the Hutt Ratepayers Association. Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the Secretary be written to stating that the River Board is not aware of any obligation on its part to recognise the Ratepayers Association. The Secretary, however, is no doubt aware that the books of the Board are at all reasonable hours open to the inspection of Ratepayers and from these can obtain all necessary information and with regard to the remainder of his letter the Board is satisfied with its legal status and does not feel called upon to question the action of his Excellency the Governor.

Acting upon instructions from the Chairman the Solicitor had obtained Mr Treadwell's opinion upon the question of appointing an Engineer to make a survey of the Hutt River.

Proposed Chairman, Seconded Foster and resolved that a letter be written to Messrs Meason and Marchant informing them that it is found that the arrangement made with their firm is invalid under the Act regulating the proceedings of this Board and asking them to suspend the work of the Report. And expressing the hope that they will see their way to tender for the work.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that tenders be called for the work of making an Engineering Survey of the Hutt River, and reporting thereon to the Board.

Proposed Dr Purdy, Seconded Foster and resolved that application be called for the position of Clerk to the Board; applicants to state the salary required

In addition to the terms offered by the Borough Council the Clerk submitted three other offers that he had received of office accommodation. Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the terms offered by the Borough Council be accepted, but that the Council be asked to reconsider the question of the amount to be paid as rental of the office.

Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that a meeting of the Board be called for the 15<sup>th</sup> instant at 8 p.m.

Notice of Motion by Foster – to move at the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> instant that the Resolution passed by the Board on the 18<sup>th</sup> April adopting the classification of the river district be rescinded

Proposed Chairman, Seconded Foster and resolved that tenders be invited for the work of classifying the district for rating purposes under Section 97 of "The River Boards Act 1884". Tenders to be in not later than Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Notice of Motion by Dr Purdy – to move at the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> instant – that the Resolution fixing the day of meeting for the first Tuesday of each month be rescinded, and that the regular Board meetings be held on the Thursday following the first Monday in each month.

The following accounts were passed for payment on the motion of Mr Fitzherbert, seconded by Dr Purdy - New Zealand Times per Mr Foster 7s 6d; Evening Post 10s 6d; New Zealand Times £1 1s – total £1 19s

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1899 Jun 15 Present – Sladden (Chairman), Fitzherbert, Foster, Dr Purdy. The Solicitor also attended.  
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Councillors Cudby and Ward, representing the Lower Hutt Borough Council, waited upon the Board in support of an application to be permitted to take shingle from the beach on the eastern side of the river below the Hutt Bridge. Proposed Chairman, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that temporary permission be given to the Borough Council to remove shingle from the beach below the Hutt Bridge until the 6<sup>th</sup> July, within limits to be delineated by Mr Fitzherbert; this permission to apply only to the Borough Council.

The Borough Council wrote intimating that upon reconsidering the question of the rental of the office, it had been decided to reduce the amount to £10 per annum. The Clerk was instructed to thank the Council for the terms now agreed to.

Proposed Foster, pursuant to notice, seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the Resolution passed by the Board on the 18<sup>th</sup> April, adopting the Classification of the River District, be rescinded.

Proposed Dr Purdy, pursuant to notice, seconded Foster and resolved that the Resolution fixing the day of meeting for the first Tuesday of each month be rescinded, and that regular meetings of the Board be held on the Thursday following the first Monday in each month.

A letter, in reply, was received from Messrs Meason & Marchant with reference to the Survey of the River. Proposed Foster, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the Clerk be instructed to reply to Messrs Meason & Marchant letter.

Notice of Motion by Mr Foster – to move at the next meeting – that the rates, when levied, shall be upon a graduated scale according to the classification of the lands of the River District.

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1899 Jul 06 Present – Sladden (Chairman), Fitzherbert, Dr Purdy  
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed

Mr Sundgren of Petone wrote offering £2 per annum for the right to cut the willows from the western bank of the river above the Hutt Bridge. Resolved that Mr Sundgren be allowed to cut the willows this year only for the sum of £2.

The Clerk was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Mr Norling of Wadestown.

Two letters for making an Engineering Survey of the Hutt River were received. Meason & Marchant £75; Leslie Reynolds £131 5s. Proposed Chairman, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that the tender of Messrs Meason and Marchant at £75, being the lowest be accepted.

Three tenders for classifying the lands of the district were received. T. W. Caverhill £43; G. H. Scales £57; J. Webster £60. Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the tender of Mr T. W. Caverhill at £43 be accepted.

One application was received for the position of Clerk to the Board. Purser £25. Proposed Chairman, Seconded Fitzherbert and resolved that Mr P. R. Purser be appointed clerk to the Board at the same salary at which he has temporarily filled the office.

It was resolved to extend the time to next meeting for the removal of shingle from the beach below the bridge by the Borough Council.

In the absence of Mr Foster it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the rates, when levied, shall be upon a graduated scale according to the classification of the lands of the River District.

Mr Foster wrote suggesting that the Board should approach the members for the districts of Otaki and Suburbs with a view to their obtaining a subsidy from parliament in aid of rates levied in the district for river protection. The Board arranged to interview the members as suggested.

The following accounts were passed for payment on the motion of Dr Purdy, seconded Fitzherbert – Hutt & Petone Chronicle £3 9s 6d; Evening Post £2 3s 6d; New Zealand Times 18s 6d – total £6 11s

A letter was received from Messrs Travers & Ollivier on behalf of the Ratepayers Association with reference to the first election of members of the Board. The Chairman had taken Counsels opinion on the particulars set forth in the letter. Proposed Fitzherbert, Seconded Dr Purdy and resolved that the action taken by the Chairman in taking the legal opinion be approved. Mr Bunny, Solicitor to the Board, had replied to the letter.

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1899 Apr 10 Present – Sladden (Chairman), Fitzherbert, Foster, Riddiford, Dr Purdy  
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed

The Chairman reported that Messrs Travers & Ollivier, acting on behalf of the Ratepayers Protective Association, had commenced an action in the Supreme Court, to test the validity of the election of the Board. And that as it was at first thought the case would have come on before the meeting of the Board, he had arranged to retain Mr Gully, who, with the Boards Solicitor, would act for the Board in contesting the case. The action of the Chairman in retaining Mr Gully to defend the case was approved.

Mr Caverhill reported the result of his classification of the lands of the district as follows:-

Class No.1 Lands liable to great actual damage

The whole of those lands coloured Pink on the plan of the said district, and comprising those portions that are included in the River District of Sectons 52, 51, 48, 49 and 37; the whole of Sections 46, 38, 31, 25 and 21; those portions lying east of the Wellington Napier Railway Line of Sections 75, 28, 20, part 24 and part 16; the whole of Sections 17, 9, 8, 10, 11 and those portions of Sections 12, 29 32 and 35 coloured Pink on the Plan aforesaid

Class No.2 Lands liable to less actual damage

The whole of those lands coloured yellow on the said Plan and comprising that portion of Section 47 included in the said district; those portions lying west of the Waiwetu River of Sections 39, 36, 34, 27, 23 and 19; the whole of Sections 33, 30, 26, 22, 18 and 13; and those portions of Sections 35, 32, 29 and 12 coloured yellow on the Plan as aforesaid

Class No.3 Lands indirectly liable to damage

The whole of the lands coloured blue on the said Plan and comprising Section 225; those portions lying east of the Waiwetu River of Sections 39, 36, 34, 27, 23 and 19; the whole of Sections 14, 15, 238, 239, 240, 76 and 77; those portions lying west of the Wellington Napier Railway Line of Sections 75 and 28, and those portions of Sections 24, 20 and 16 coloured Blue on the Plan as aforesaid.

The Classifier submitted the plan of the district and the Classification Lists containing detailed particulars of the Classification hereinbefore recited. Proposed Foster, Seconded Riddiford and resolved that the Classification made by Mr Caverhill be agreed to and adopted, and that the Chairman be authorised to sign the Classification Lists.

[Note: annotated in red pen – Classification rescinded 10 Nov 1899]

The Clerk was instructed to advertise the Classification List as required by “The River Boards Act 1884”

Proposed Foster, Seconded Riddiford and resolved that the Chairman and Dr Purdy be authorised to sign the Classifiers Warrant of appointment.

The Valuer General had authorised the following alterations to be made in the Valuation Roll

Valuation Number		Name		Area	Capital Value	Unimproved Value
No.213	3/61	James Kyle	occupier			
No.214		Mrs Elizabeth Speedy	occupier			
No.246	3/33	George Windram	occupier			
No.248		James Kilmister	owner/occupier			
No.249		J. & H. Barber per Henry Barber	owner/occupier			
No.19	3/33	Mrs E. Speedy	occupier			
No.272		Ward – John, William and Henry	owner/occupier		£885	£840
No.272a		Dr M. J. Grace		10 acres	£60	
No.176		C. W. Brown			£2150	£2000
No.425	3/33	Henry Eglinton	owner/occupier	6a 2r	£150	£140
No.240		Henry Eglinton	owner	44 acres	£1625	£1085
No.240		John William Carrick	occupier			
No.412		William Gough		27 perches	£390	£115
No.426		William Judd	owner/occupier	24 perches	£100	
No.33	3/63	Samuel Mason	owner	16 acres	£908	£880
No.33	3/63	Sim Qing Kee	occupier			

Notice of motion by Mr Foster – to move at next meeting – that a Royalty be charged upon all shingle removed from the Hutt River

Proposed Foster, Seconded Riddiford and resolved that a Committee to consist of the Chairman and Mr Fitzherbert be appointed to go into the question of charging a Royalty on shingle, and to report to next meeting.



It was resolved that the following accounts be passed for payment (that of Meason & Marchant to stand over for the present) Meason & Marchant £75; T. W. Caverhill £28 13s 4d; Evening Post £2 11s – total £106 4s 4d

On the motion of Mr Foster it was resolved that the Members of Parliament for the district be written to and asked to arrange a date upon which a deputation could wait upon the Premier with a view to the Board obtaining assistance from the Government towards protecting the River.

The Engineer forwarded his report together with a Plan of the Hutt River. The Board then went into Committee to consider the Engineers Report

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1899 Sep 07 Present – Sladden (Chairman), Fitzherbert, Riddiford. The Solicitor also attended. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Messrs Stafford, Treadwell and Field wrote informing the Board that Mrs E. Kingdon was applying for a certificate of title under the Land Transfer Act in respect to all her land in Section 75 Hutt District, excepting thereout a strip of land 100 links wide running from the Western Hutt road to the river (See Plan No.885 deposited in the Land Registry Office). The Clerk was instructed to interview the Land Register and to inspect the Plan of the land, and to report to the Chairman. Proposed Riddiford, Seconded Chairman and resolved that the Chairman and Mr Fitzherbert be a committee to deal with this matter.

The Valuer General wrote authorising the following alterations to be made in the Valuation Roll of their District – namely

Valuation Number	Name	Area	Capital Value	Unimproved Value
No.3	61/81 Peter Speedy	owner		
No.213	3/61 James Kyle	occupier		
No.3	63/22 Cancelled			
No.149	David Balls	owner/occupier	4a 3r 31p	£375
No.150	James Thornton Nott	owner/occupier	18 acres	£1430
No.151	John Johnston	owner/occupier	1a 2r 26p	£120
No.33	Samuel S. Mason	owner/occupier		
No.3	63/62 Mrs J. Pipe	owner		
No.10	Richard Peck Jnr	owner/occupier	2a 2r	£400
No.11	Thomas Minogue	owner/occupier	5a 0r 26p	£590
No.3	33/4 Charles Copeland	owner		

Valuation Number	Name		Area	Capital Value	Unimproved Value
No.16	E. P. Cousins	owner	Occupier: Orton Stevens		
No.27	F. de Clere	owner	Occupier: F. W. Bon		
No.44	Mrs M. A. Manson	owner	Occupier: H. A. Mann		
No.53	James Grove	owner/occupier			
No.55	J. O. Carlson	owner/occupier			
No.62	H. A. Mann	owner/occupier			
No.72	Miss M. Compton	owner/occupier			
No.81	Charles H. Wildsmith	owner/occupier			
No.110	James J. Taine	owner	Occupier: John Tait		
No.127	H. S. Fitzherbert	owner/occupier	1 acre	£660	
No.149	J. D. Pinkerton per G. Cudby	owner/occupier			
No.216	Daniel West	owner/occupier	Estate of H. Eglinton		
No.223	G. A. Chapman	owner/occupier			
No.231	Alexander Lumsden	owner/occupier			
No.245	Mrs E. L. Snook	owner/occupier			
No.312	John Wright	owner/occupier			
No.314	Misses J. E. N. & A. J. V. Johnston	owner/occupier			
No.319	Mrs Charles Cudby (Emma)	owner/occupier			
No.381	Minnie Rapira	owner	Occupiers: G. & W. J. Cudby		
No.427	John R. Jillett	owner/occupier	29 perches	£140	

With regard to charging a royalty on shingle the Chairman reported that the Committee had made enquiries from several contractors in Wellington and it was found that it would be unduly handicapping the Hutt shingle were the Board to place a royalty upon it; and the Committee were of opinion that as much shingle as possible should be taken from the Hutt River. The Committee would therefore recommend that the shingle beaches within defined limits and under proper supervision be thrown open to the Public. Consideration of the report was deferred to next meeting.

Mr Fitzherbert raised the question of steps being taken to protect the Willow plantations along the river banks from being destroyed by cows. And it was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to send notices to Messrs Baker Bros and Routley, respectively informing them that Cows are damaging the Willows along the river fronting their properties and to request them to take steps to remedy the matter. It was also decided to obtain Mr Bunny's opinion as to the powers of the Board in the matter.

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 List of Chairman and Board Members of the Hutt River Board 1899 to 1940
 

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1899 Mar	D. Sladden (chairman)	W. A. Fitzherbert	W. G. Foster	E. J. Riddiford	Dr Purdy
1900 Jan	D. Sladden (chairman)	W. A. Fitzherbert	W. G. Foster	E. J. Riddiford	Robert Stevens
1903 Jan	D. Sladden (chairman)	Fitzherbert	Foster	R. Stevens	Orton Stevens
1906 Jan	W. G. Forster (chairman)	Fitzherbert	R. Stevens	O. Stevens	T. W. McDonald
1906 Mar	Mr Fitzherbert died	Bye election.	Mr A. Peters elected		
1908 Feb	T. W. McDonald resigned		Mr T. A. Peterkin elected		
1909 Jan	H. Stevens (chairman)	O. Stevens	A. Peters	T. A. Peterkin	H. Sladden
1909 Nov	A. Peters resigned		F. J. Pinny elected		
1910 Mar	Orton Stevens resigned		A. E. Roots elected		
1912 Jan	H. Baldwin (chairman)	E. Sladden	T. A. Peterkin	Willoughby Knight	M. W. Welch
1912 May	H. Sladden resigned		George Bowers elected		
1913 Jan	T. A. Peterkin resigned		A. D. Kennedy elected		
1921 Jan	W. T. Strand (chairman)	J. Brassell	J. Mitchell	G. Bowers	J. Mitchell
1921 Apr	G. Bowers resigned		J. C. Mabey elected		
1921 Nov	J. Brassell resigned		F. H. Futter elected		
1924 Jan	W. T. Strand (chairman)	S. Clendon	J. C. Mabey	J. Mitchell	W. H. Smith
1927 Jan	W. T. Strand (chairman)	C. Gostelow	J. C. Mabey	J. Mitchell	W. H. Smith
1928 Feb	J. C. Mabey resigned		F. S. Hewer elected		
1930 Jan	F. S. Hewer (chairman)	J. Mitchell	C. Gostelow	H. E. Leighton	G. A. Chapman
1933 Jan	J. Jones (chairman)	J. Mitchell	W. T. Strand	J. Brassell	M. J. Hodgins
1936 Jan	J. Mitchell (chairman)	F. J. Jones	J. Brassell	M. J. Hodgins	V. A. Noble
1936 May	V. A. Noble resigned		Dr B. J. Dudley elected		
1938 May	B. J. Dudley (chairman)	J. Mitchell	F. J. Jones	J. W. Andrews	W. R. M. Pearce

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