

Minutes of the 4th Governing Council meeting of H.P. Aquaculture, Fishing & Marketing Society, Bilaspur, H.P.

The 4th 'Governing Council' meeting of the H.P. Aquaculture, Fishing and Marketing Society was held on 22nd April, 2003 in the Chamber of Sh. S.S. Parmar, Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister-cum-Chairman A.F. & M. Society at Shimla. The following attended the meeting:

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| 1. | Sh. S.S. Parmar,
Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh Shimla-2 | Chairman |
| 2. | Sh. O.P. Sharma
Special Secretary(AH & Fisheries)
Govt. Of Himachal Pradesh Shimla-2 | Member |
| 3. | Sh. B.R. Koundal,
Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries,
Himachal Pradesh | Member |
| 4. | Sh. B.D. Sharma,
Deputy Director of Fisheries,
Patlikuhl, Distt. Kullu | Member |
| 5. | Sh. N.S. Chaudhry,
Deputy Director(H.Q)
Directorate of Fisheries
Himachal Pradesh | Member |
| 6. | Sh. J.R. Dogra
Assistant Director of Fisheries, Mandi | Member |
| 7. | Sh. Gurcharan Singh
Assistant Director of Fisheries, Pong Dam | Member |
| 8. | Sh. R.P. Dogra
Assistant Director of Fisheries, Bilaspur | Member |
| 9. | Sh. Tapes Chohan
Fisheries Officer, Shimla | Member |
| 10. | Dr. Kuldip Kumar
Secretary
Advisor-cum-CEO
H.P. Aquaculture, Fishing
and Marketing Society, | Member |

Bilaspur

Initiating the meeting the Chairman welcomed the member and asked the Member Secretary to take up the agenda item for discussion.

1. Confirmation of the minutes of 3rd meeting of the Society:

Taking up the first item of the agenda the Member Secretary informed the house that all the decision taken in the 3rd 'Governing Council' meeting have been implemented barring the two items viz. i) construction of sedimentation tank at Patlikuhl farm; ii) purchase of feed driver for Patlikuhl farm.

Reacting on it, the DDF Patlikuhl informed that requisite funds have been provided to PWD for construction of sedimentation tank from fisheries department budget and the same is under construction. As far the feed drier, the Advisor (Fisheries) informed members that Norwegian Feed Specialists have sent a drawing of feed drier and suggested its fabrication locally. It was decided that the department engineer may be asked to work its technically get it fabricated and installed at the farm.

Later the house confirmed the minutes of 3rd 'Governing Council' meeting of the Society.

Item 2. Financial Position of the Society:

The House approved the expenditure as per detail given in ann. 1.

Item 3. Status of the viral disease in Trout farms vis-à-vis. Action taken on Norwegian report.

The Member Secretary informed the members that most of suggestions made by the National Veterinary Institute Scientists including the sale of non-diseases fish, burial of diseased fish/juveniles with proper disinfection, chemical treatment of hatcheries and raceways including observance of hygienic standards such as provision of shoes, gloves, hand nets etc were implemented on suggested lines.

The eggs stripped during the current year at Patlikuhl and Nagni farms are being reared and so far there is no incidence of major mortality or disease-related syndromes.

The proposal regarding purchase of brood stock from private fish farmers and collection from state's streams was approved. The Chairman desired that DWF would issue clear instructions to the field officers for needful action and building up a stock of brood stock at the trout farms either by purchasing the brooders from private farmers or collection from the trout streams. The seed raised

currently in different trout farms be grown up to table size fish with utmost care so as to restart the sale of trout from the farms by the end of current year.

Item 4. Progress under NORAD assisted project on Institutional Cooperation:

The Member Secretary informed the members that the three state officials viz. Dr. Chatinya Thakur, V.O. Sh. K.S. Thakur, F.O., Sh. Rajinder Pal, SIF have completed their three week training at NVI, Oslo. The second visit of Norwegian scientists is to commence from 27th April 2003. During this visit, NVI scientists would examine the stock of fish seed being grown in Patlikuhl, Nagni and Barot farms in addition to histo-pathological studies and, training of farm officials.

Further, the consignment of 40,000 'eyed ova' of brown trout has been imported from Norway and being reared at Barot fish Farm. The Chairman wanted to know the distribution plan of the reared stock and it was informed that seed would be distributed to Holi trout fish farm, Nagni and Sangla farm while a portion of stock would be retained at the Barot farm for raising brooders. The item was approved.

Further estimate amounting Rs. 10,89,600/- by Agro Industries for construction of laboratory at Patlikuhl farm were approved. It was decided that work be completed on priority basis.

As far purchase of two microscopes along with related accessories, the house unanimously decided that taking the NVI scientists suggestion we may go purchase of Olympus microscope from the authorized dealer of Olympus in India. The expenditure of Rs. 13.17 lakhs to be incurred on the purchase of these microscopes (as per invoice) was also approved with the rider that purchase order for microscope be given only after release of pending NORAD funds by the state Govt.

As far equipments for pathological laboratory chemicals an amount of Rs. 15,665/- were sanctioned with a condition that purchase be made on rate contract basis. For the items not covered under rate contract the std codal formalities be observed. The house authorized to undertake the purchases.

As far purchase of literature/books the house approved an expenditure of Rs. 34,398/- for purchase of suggested books.

As far remaining books the project's purchase committee was authorized to undertake the purchases.

Item 5 Progress under NHPC funded project' Fisheries development in Ravi basin of Chamara HE , Project II.

On being informed by the Member Secretary that SIDC & IPH have submitted written commitments of completion of civil works viz. 'augmentation of water supply to Sultanpur and Holi fish farm, the Chairman remarked that the works be completed in specified time and balance funds be got released from Chamera authority.

An issue of providing vehicle to the office of ADF Chamba was also raised in the meeting and it was approved with the rider that the driver for the vehicle be appointed purely on contract basis, charged from project funds and his services should be co-terminus with the project. The purchase be credited to the project's funds.

It was also decided that Chamera reservoir be stocked with 1.00 lakh golden Mahseer after procuring the seed from Lonavla Fish Farm. Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries may depute officials to procure the seed, ensure its safe transportation from Lonavla to Chamba. The seed be raised to fry stage and later stocked in the Chamera reservoir.

Item 6. Progress under BBMB funded project for 'Promotion of fisheries in the riparian area of Suketi Khad

The Member Secretary informed that the desired DPR of the project for 'Promotion of fisheries in the riparian area of Suketi Khad' has been sent to BBMB. The BBMB has sent the report for evaluation and as per Chief Engineer, BBMB any further action would be taken only after receipt of Evaluation Report.

Item 7. Progress under SJVN funded project for 'Development of fisheries in Nathpa Jhakri reservoir and main Satluj river'.

The Member Secretary informed that SIDC the executing agency for renovation of Sangla fish farm has assured in writing that the allotted works of Sangla farm would be completed by August,2003. the import of trout seed from Norway has been done. A meeting is being fixed with SJVN officials for appraisal of the project's progress and release of remaining funds.

The Chairman emphasized that Sangla farm's remodeling work be completed as per schedule and proposed meeting may be arranged with SJVN officials for spelling out time and action programme immediately.

Item 8. New Projects/Proposals:

It was decided that advisor (Fisheries) may take up the matter with NJPC & NHPC in order to know the status of these submitted projects and their clearance. On being informed that Deputy Commissioner, Bilaspur has in a recent meeting reduced the financial limit of the project to Rs. 50 lakhs, the

Chairman asked the Additional Secretary(AH & Fisheries) to issue a letter for clarification on his behalf to Deputy Commissioner, Bilaspur.

Item 9. Mahseer Fish Farm Sidhpur.

In view of transference of the Centrally Sponsored Project of Mahseer to the department, the Chairman desired that DWF may expedite the matter with IPH for furnishing revised estimates as well as with Agro-Industries Corporation for initiation of works.

As far the issue of offering consultancy of Mahseer breeding project. It was decided that Sh. S.N.Ogla Environment Officer, Lonavala Fish Farm may be persuaded to accept the MOU submitted by him during last year. The minor changes regarding inclusion of travel expenditure in the consultancy amount etc. be incorporated in the agreement. Advisor(Fisheries) may prepare a revised draft agreement, including candidly the responsibilities and liabilities of both the parties. The package proposal be discussed with Sh. Ogale and later put up to the Chairman for approval.

Item 10. Sanction for replacement of 3 vehicles in the department.

After brief discussion on the issue it was decided that a comprehensive case may be prepared and sent to Govt. the proposal may incorporate the relevant details of each vehicle viz. year of purchase, total mileage covered, annual repair cost along with justification for seeking requisite approval of finance department.

Item 11. Purchase of two computers under the NORAD project.

The house decided that as per Govt. order the purchase of computers could be made only from State Electronic Corporation, Shimla. And in case of their failure to effect the supply and subsequent issuance of 'NO Objection Certificate' the purchase may be made from open market. The Member Secretary was advised to take action accordingly.

Item 12. Enhancement of financial power Rs. 2000/- to 5000/-

Taking in view the justification, the item regarding enhancement of financial power of Advisor for meeting the contingent expenditure from Rs. 2000 to 5000 was approved retrospectively.

Item 13. Payment of honorarium to the staff working in the Society:

After brief discussion it was decided that since a scheme on incentive & disincentive for Society' staff is already under consideration as such the item be deferred for the time being.

Item 14. Sanction of House rent to Advisor (Fisheries) from Society funds.

Expressing his reaction, the Chairman said that in case of such relaxation of payment of house rent of Advisor(Fisheries) from Society funds, the money would be accounted in the personnel income tax assessment. The Advisor (Fisheries) was suggested to consult the existing Income Tax rules on the issue and put up the case to the Chairman during next week.

Item 15 Miscellaneous items:

i) It was decided that all retrospective pending subscription amount of Fishing Chimes journal of different officers would be made by these offices respectively. As far subscribing the journal in future, the interested officers may send the requisition to H.P. AFMS Society so that a consolidated order be sent to Editor 'Fishing Chimes' along with subscription amount.

ii) Sanction of payment of pending taxi fare and hotel bills:

The item regarding incurring of expenditure of Rs. 750/- and Rs. 1147/- for taxi fare and food bill etc. spent on Norwegian consultants was approved by the house.

iii) Sanction of estimate of Rs. 6,500/- for repair of water supply pipe, pump etc in the residence of Advisor(Fisheries).

The item regarding expenditure of Rs. 6,500/- for repair of water supply pipe and installation of pump was approved.

iv) Appointment of Sh. Arvind K. Sankhyan as Chartered Accountant.

The item regarding appointment of Sh. Arvind K. Sankhyan as Chartered Accountant for auditing the society account for the current year on a consolidated fee of Rs. 5,000/- was approved by the house.

Any other issue:

The Advisor (Fisheries) raised the issue of inordinate delay in the completion of work of Dhamwari Fish Farm. He said despite making payments of estimated amount in full to PWD, the farm is still far from completion. It is necessary to commission this farm at the earliest, as the area is free from disease threat. Agreeing on the point, the Chairman asked DWF to take up matter with the executive agency and put up a detailed report to him at the earliest.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.