

26 June 2009

New Chair appointed to Buller holdings

The Buller District Council has appointed a new chairman to Buller Holdings Limited.

Mr Brian Wood has been appointed to the chair following the resignation of Peter Young. Mr Wood has been a member of the board since October 2008. He was previously Managing Director, Asia Pacific for MWH and prior to that worked in central and local government for over 30 years. He is currently a company director for several companies

The Council also appointed two new directors to replace Peter Young and Ian Walker. The new appointees are Mr Frank Dooley and Mr Bill Lee. Mr Dooley is a chartered accountant and principal of FT Dooley Ltd a local accountancy firm. He is also chairman of Buller Electricity and an elected trustee on Development West Coast. Mr Lee is chairman of *Canterprise* a wholly owned company of University of Canterbury specializing in start up enterprises as well as a director for several other private sector companies.

The other board members are Barry McFedries and Kevin Jackson.

Council also approved at their meeting on Wednesday, the transfer of the Solid Energy Centre to Buller Recreation Limited and Westport Harbour to Westport Harbour Limited. Both companies will be the responsibility of Buller Holdings Limited which is the Council's 100% owned holding company.

“The purpose of Buller Holdings Limited is to provide a commercial focus in the governance and management of Buller District Council commercial assets, to allow for maximum returns for the benefit of the ratepayer,” says Mayor Pat McManus. “The Council looks forward to working with the holding company directors to ensure the ongoing success of these key business units for the benefit of the community.”

Buller Holdings Limited also owns WestReef Service Limited, and provides advisory services to Westport Airport and the Punakaiki Beach Camp.

ENDS



**Further information; Gary Murphy (Chief Executive)
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