

Minutes for a meeting of the Waikato District Council held in the Committee Rooms 1 & 2, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaaruawaahia on **WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE 2024** commencing at **10:00 AM**.

PRESENT

Mr D Wright (Chairperson)
Mr G Ion (Chief Executive)
Mr G Dibley - *from 10.27am*
Ms J Colliar (*via audio visual link*)

ATTENDING

Cr E Patterson
Cr D Whyte
Mr R Bax (Richard Bax Consulting)
Ms M May (General Manager, Service Delivery)
Mr K Martin (Waters Manager)
Mr J Baldwin (Waters Engineering Manager)
Mr D Sharma (Infrastructure Development Manager)
Mr D Chambers (Watercare Chief Executive)
Mr M Telfer (Watercare - Waikato)
Mr P Crabb (Watercare - Waikato)
Mr R Pullar (Watercare - Waikato)
Mr J Turner (Watercare - Waikato)
Mr D Bourne (Waikato District Alliance)

The meeting opened with a karakia.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Dibley)

THAT the Water Governance Board accepts the apologies from Ms R Schaafhausen for non-attendance.

CARRIED

WGB246/1

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA

- A brief discussion was held in relation to the Council meeting that took place on Monday, 17 June 2024 which included a presentation from the Board Chairperson outlining the activities of the Board for previous 12 months.
- The Chief Executive Officer gave an overview of the changes made to the Waters Governance Board Terms of Reference which include due consideration and reference to affordability issues for our communities when the Board are making decisions or recommendations to Council.

Resolved: (Mr Dibley/Mr Ion)

THAT the Water Governance Board held on Wednesday, 19 June 2024 be confirmed:

- a. with all items therein being considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda items 7, which shall be considered with the public excluded; and**
- b. all reports be received.**

CARRIED

WGB246/2

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

The Chairperson declared for the Committee an update to the Interests Register: Chairperson, SRSL Assets Ltd.

MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION

Confirmation of Minutes for a meeting on Tuesday, 7 May 2024.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Dibley)

THAT the minutes for a meeting of the Waters Governance Board held on Tuesday, 7 May 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

WGB246/3

ACTIONS REGISTER

Open Actions Register - June 2024

The report was received (*WGB246/2 refers*) and the following discussion was held:

- Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Discharge Consent Update - Mr R Bax is presenting his report to the Board today.
- The report on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is included in the agenda.
- Mr M Telfer advised the Board that work is still ongoing in relation to the drop test results for Te Kauwhata Water Treatment Plant however the data has been provided to BECA who is compiling the report and will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.
- To ensure that the actions on the register are being complied with and information is being provided to the Board in the timeframe stated it was requested that the actions register stipulates moving forward the confirmation of a report being submitted or likewise, confirm if a report is not being provided and advise the new timeframe for receipt.
- Communications - the website has been updated with a number of project outcomes for both Te Kauwhata and Raglan communities.
- It was noted that there is a media event happening tomorrow at Raglan to ensure the community are aware of what is happening with the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)

THAT the Waters Governance Board receives the Actions Register to June 2024.

CARRIED

WGB246/4

REPORTS

6.1 Three Waters Governance Report - May 2024

The report was received (*WGB246/2 refers*) and the following discussion was held:

- The report was taken as read and Mr M Telfer gave a brief overview of the key highlights and confirmed that all performance results were achieved in May.
- An update on the Te Akau Water Treatment Plant upgrade project was provided and it was noted that delivery of the project is behind schedule - was hoping for completion to be done by the end of July 2024. The impact on delivery is around accessing permits to private property and discussions are ongoing with the property owner to give assurance that the bore location will not negatively impact their own pending consent application.
- It was further noted by the Board that whilst the Te Akau Water Treatment Plant project is a small one it has a lot of community interest so there is a requirement for regular updates and current information to come through to Councillors.
- It was confirmed in response to a query from the Board that due to the timing of this meeting the information and comments in the report relate mostly to April.
- Two queries were raised in relation to the Infrastructure Planning section of the report: Is there any dialogue happening with Council staff and Watercare with Developer led Fast Track Consent applications and are there any projects that have been put forward for consideration under the fast track consenting bill for inclusion in the schedules? It was noted that if there are any projects being put forward for fast track consenting it would be good for the Board to get an oversight on this.
- In response to the fast track consenting queries it was determined by the Board that discussion will take place outside of this meeting with the Board and taken off-line.

ACTION: A further discussion for the Board to be held off-line in regards to fast track consenting at a later date.

- It was confirmed in response to a query that the term MWEF refers to Elevated Work Platform.
- Carley's Transport Trade Waste - it was queried who is responsible for the six-monthly cleaning schedule that has been implemented as an Action. It was confirmed that the property owner is responsible for the maintenance.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)

THAT the Water Governance Board receives the receives the Three Waters Governance Report - May 2024.

CARRIED

WGB246/5

6.2 Watercare Standard Requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

The report was received (*WGB246/2 refers*) and the following discussion was held:

- Mr M Telfer spoke to the report and gave a brief overview of the Watercare requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the workplace.
- The report highlights the Watercare PPE procedure which sets the default standards for PPE requirements are for staff, contractors and visitors to Watercare sites.
- The Board raised a few questions in response to the report and queried;
 - *Where did this report come from and is the information all from one policy?*
 - *What standards are used for each item as there is no reference to the standards in the report? What is the standard for safety glasses or footwear?*
 - *There appears to be a lack of detail in the report that doesn't break down the right standards for each safety item - does Watercare have a policy outlining this level of detail?*
- It was noted that the reason that the Board requested this report from Watercare originally was to receive assurances that PPE standards and requirements were not only being adhered to but staff and contractors were undertaking inductions and safety training for each site to ensure their safety - particularly because there have been safety incidents involving incorrect PPE being worn reported to the Board in previous reports.
- Mr D Chambers (Watercare) addressed the concerns raised by the Board in regards to this report and reiterated that Watercare have very clear standards and expectations for all staff and contractors with PPE. Mr Chambers advised that whilst his feeling is that the report provides a very high level of detail with information that is readily available and easily accessible to all Watercare staff on their Intranet, it was acknowledged that the Board didn't quite get the information they were looking for in this report.
- Mr Chambers further reiterated that Watercare have very stringent training for all staff on PPE safety standards and gave the Board his absolute assurance that the appropriate PPE requirements along with the appropriate training requirements are in place at Watercare.
- It was queried if the standards are the same across both Auckland and Waikato Watercare sites? If a staff member from Watercare Auckland was to work on a Waikato site will they know the specific PPE standards? It was confirmed that yes all staff know the standards for all sites.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)

That the Waters Governance Board receives the Watercare Standard Requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) report.

CARRIED

WGB246/6

6.3 Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge options consultation update

The report was received (*WGB246/2 refers*) and the following discussion was held:

- Ms Colliar declared her interest for this item as a trustee of Nga Muka Development Trust.
- Mr R Bax spoke to the report and it was clarified that this report was originally intended for the Board meeting held in May.
- The key updates on the project since the last Board report was highlighted and it was noted that whilst some positive progress has been made there is still a long way to go in the project.
- It was acknowledged that there are some tasks on the project timeline which are behind schedule however there has been some key progress made particularly with discharging into the lake via a wetland becoming a viable option with the improved wastewater treatment.
- The Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group held a meeting on the 12th June which was attended by Mr Bax, BECA and Councils Waters Manager and the report that was completed by BECA with their recommendations on the short list of options of wastewater discharge was discussed. The Chairperson of Nga Muka was unable to attend the meeting.
- Mr Bax, BECA and the Waters Manager are going to meet with the group again in two months time to present the rationale on the options and also give some indicative costs for the options. It is hoped that the outcome for this meeting will be some clear direction so the public consultation process can begin.
- In regards to the discharge option to the lake, it was queried by the Board who raised this option? It was noted that there have been many discussions around the table during the process and Nga Muka had also met with Sleepyhead to discuss the opportunities they are exploring on site of discharging to a waterway; Nga Muka are looking at this concept for Te Kauwhata and the Waters Manager advised that he has met with the Nga Muka Chairperson and had discussions around this. It was further noted that there was a meeting with the marae last week to discuss this concept further however the outcome of those discussions aren't known at this stage.
- It was queried whether the meeting with the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group on 12 June was well represented by all the interested

parties? It was noted that the only groups that weren't represented was Waikato Regional Council and the Department of Conservation and the main commentary from those who were in attendance was supportive and a desire to get on with the project.

- It was advised by the Board that the next report to the Board should include an updated timeline of the project.
- It was also noted that it might be a good idea to engage with the marae, particularly those that are located around the lake to ensure they have the opportunity to have their voices heard.

Resolved: (Mr Ion/Mr Dibley)

THAT the Waters Governance Board receives the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge options consultation update report.

CARRIED

WGB246/7

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

7.1 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved: (Mr Dibley/Mr Ion)

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Item PEX 1 Minutes from meeting held on Tuesday, 7 May 2024. Item PEX 2 Actions Register	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 6 or Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)
Item PEX 3.1 Waikato Waters Financial Report - April 2024		
Item PEX 3.2 Ngaaruawaahia Pipeline - Great South Road Section		
Item PEX 3.3 Capital Delivery Programme Overview		
Item PEX 3.4 Raglan Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent Application. Preparation Project - Discharge Optioneering Update		

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item No.	Section	Interest
Item PEX 1 Minutes from meeting held Tuesday, 7 May 2024.		Refer to the previous Public Excluded reason in the agenda for this meeting.
Item PEX 2 Action Register		
Item PEX 3.1 Waikato Waters Financial Report - April 2024	7(2)(b)(ii) 7(2)(h)	To protect information that would otherwise unreasonably prejudice a persons commercial position. To enable commercial activities to be carried out without prejudice or disadvantage.
Item PEX 3.2 Ngaaruawaahia Pipeline - Great South Road Section	7(2)(b)(ii) 7(2)(h) 7(2)(j)	To protect information that would otherwise unreasonably prejudice a persons commercial position. To enable commercial activities to be carried out without prejudice or disadvantage. To prevent use of the information for improper gain or advantage.
Item PEX 3.3 Capital Delivery Programme Overview	7(2)(h) 7(2)(i)	To enable commercial activities to be carried out without prejudice or disadvantage. To enable negotiations to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage.
Item PEX 3.4 Raglan Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent Application. Preparation Project - Discharge Optioneering Update	7(2)(b)(ii) 7(2)(h) 7(2)(j)	To protect information that would otherwise unreasonably prejudice a persons commercial position. To enable commercial activities to be carried out without prejudice or disadvantage. To prevent use of the information for improper gain or advantage.

CARRIED

WGB246/8

CLOSE OF MEETING

Resolutions (WGB246/9 - WGB246/15) are contained in the public excluded section of these minutes.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed
this day 2024.

Mr D Wright
CHAIRPERSON