

MINUTES of a meeting of the Waters Governance Board Meeting of the Waikato District Council held in Committee Rooms 1 & 2, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia on **FRIDAY, 20 DECEMBER 2019** commencing at **9.06am**.

Present:

Ms R Schaafhausen (Chair)
Mr D Wright
Mr GJ Ion (Chief Executive, Waikato District Council)
Ms J Colliar (Intern)

Attending:

Mr I Cathcart (General Manager Service Delivery)
Ms C Nutt (Project Manager)
Mrs C Pidduck (Legal Counsel)
Mr S Toka (Pouhono Iwi ki te Haapori | Iwi and Community Partnerships Manager)
Mr B Stringer (Democracy Manager)

Ms S Danks (Waikato Business Manager, Watercare)
Mr R Pullar (Infrastructure Delivery Manager, Watercare)

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Iwi and Community Partnerships Manager provided an update to the Board on a raahui put in place by Ngaati Naho Trust for the area from the southern end of Meremere to Port Waikato. He advised that other local haapu did not acknowledge the raahui, in that Ngaati Naho did not have jurisdiction over the entire area. Ms Danks also advised there appeared to be some misinformation, with no reported sewage discharge into the river from the Meremere treatment plant.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Mr Ion/Ms Schaafhausen)

THAT an apology be received from Mr Dibley.

CARRIED

WGBI912/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)

THAT the agenda for a meeting of the **Waters Governance Board Meeting** held on **Friday, 20 December 2019** be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda item 6 which shall be discussed with the public excluded;

AND THAT the following item be discussed at an appropriate time during the course of the **Open Agenda** of the meeting;

- **Letter - Ohinewai Servicing for Three Waters;**

AND FURTHER THAT the Board resolves that the following item be added to the **Public Excluded Agenda**, as **Agenda Item 2.5**, as advised by the **Chief Executive**:

- **Contract Financial Report.**

CARRIED

WGB1912/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The Board members present provided updates to their respective interests under Agenda Item 5.1 [*Register of Interests*] in the open session of the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: (Ms Schaafhausen/Mr Wright)

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the **Waters Governance Board Meeting** held on **Wednesday, 20 November 2019** be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting subject to the addition of the following discussion point under **Agenda Item 5.3**:

- *A report to be presented by Watercare to the Board on the key milestones for the consent application during the 36-month period.*

CARRIED

WGB1912/03

REPORTS

Agenda Item 5.5 was considered as the first report. The Chairperson requested that the Actions Reports (for both Open and Public Excluded) be presented to the Board immediately following confirmation of minutes in future agendas.

Actions Report Agenda Item 5.5

The following updates were provided:

- The Minister of Local Government had confirmed attendance at the February 2020 Board meeting. In preparation, the Board requested that:
 - a. staff draft a briefing paper to the Board on the proposed water quality/services regulator legislation, to identify the scope and implications of the legislation to the Council's waters' assets (in particular cost implications – both capital and compliance).

Discussion was held on the potential liability of a local authority supplier in the event of non-compliance by a private supplier.
 - b. key messages to the Minister in relation to the proposed legislation be prepared. Mr Wright offered to provide input on this.
 - c. views on the proposed legislation to be sent to Ms Colliar in January 2020 in connection with her work with an advisory panel to consider the legislation.

The above work would inform a submission from the Council, to be completed by the March deadline.

- The Chief Executive would provide the Chairperson the dates of the Council meetings at which she would be required to present updates on behalf of the Board.
- All outstanding actions to be reported to the Board in February 2020, other than:
 - a. Education and upskilling on Maaori perspectives on water – March 2020
 - b. Confirm financial reporting and audit processes – March 2020.

Staff were requested to ensure that all columns in the Actions Register are updated prior to presenting to the Board.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Ms Schaafhausen)

THAT the report from the General Manager Service Delivery be received.

CARRIED

WGB1912/04

Register of Interests – Waters Governance Board Agenda Item 5.1

Board members present provided updates to the Register.

Resolved: (Mr Ion/ Ms Schaafhausen)

THAT the report from the General Manager Service Delivery be received.

CARRIED

WGBI912/05

Waikato District Council Three Waters Monthly Performance Report November 2019
Agenda Item 5.2

Ms Danks and the General Manager Service Delivery highlighted, and responded to questions, on the following points:

- Two KPIs not met were due to availability of suppliers to attend wastewater issues in Raglan within required timeframes. The Board requested Watercare to review how to address this going forward, including whether the target needed to be amended.
- Completed works at the Ngaruawahia Water Treatment Plant.
- Contract for Mid-Waikato Water and Wastewater Servicing Strategy expected to be awarded imminently, to commence on 6 January 2020.
- Tender documents for Meremere upgrade to be issued on 14 January 2020; on track.
- Meremere abatement notice expected to be extended to 31 December 2020; a design to resolve the discharge issue would be shared with the Waikato Regional Council. An update report to be presented in March 2020.
- Te Kauwhata WWTP
 - the concept for the preferred option was through; an update report to be presented to the Board in early 2020.
 - Watercare was requested to consider carbon emissions as part of any capital solution.
 - Watercare had 12 months to resolve the abatement notice.
 - Watercare to provide a high-level programme plan for Te Kauwhata WWTP at the February 2020 Board meeting; to consider ultimate solution and options, and engagement with local community and mana whenua.
- A letter had been sent to Treasury to seek direction on access to HIF Fund awarded to the Council for waters' capital expenditure. This would commence with water projects while the wastewater strategy was tested in the Mid Waikato Water and Wastewater Servicing Strategy.
- Technical non-compliance in November due to change in reporting standards for chlorine.
- Recommended condition assessment study. Watercare was some time away from implementing smart meters; expectation that Waikato would align with Auckland (e.g. roll out to significant water users).
- Recent taste/odour issues in Huntly were now resolved with carbon dosing; complaints reduced.
- Issue with E Coli levels in Ngaruawahia; Waikato DHB investigating. Issue with samples taken near where ducks were located.

- Update provided on delivery of capital programme; work on Te Kauwhata WWTP and Ngaruawahia UV installation expected in early 2020; projects on Pokeno and Port Waikato discussed. Watercare planned to tender to local suppliers for required works.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)

THAT the report from the General Manager Service Delivery be received.

CARRIED

WGB1912/06

River Road, Ngaruawahia Wastewater Reticulation Upgrade (Unplanned Capex >\$150,000)
Agenda Item 5.3

The General Manager Service Delivery, supported by Mr Pullar, highlighted, and responded to questions on, the following key points:

- Next step would be to discuss required changes with developer to achieve a positive outcome. This would include a variation to the existing consent condition, which could require a separate infrastructure agreement.
- Budget not in current LTP; funding for solution would be an issue to discuss with the developer.
- Proposed solution would enable the developer to proceed with plans, though not at desired pace.

It was recommended that this situation be used to map out roles and responsibilities between Watercare and Waikato District Council for similar cases.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)

THAT the report from the General Manager Service Delivery be received;

AND THAT the River Road, Ngaruawahia Wastewater Reticulation Upgrade project be approved to move to the next stage, as outlined in the staff report.

CARRIED

WGB1912/07

Customer Billing Project Overview
Agenda Item 5.4

The General Manager Service Delivery, supported by the Project Manager, highlighted, and responded to questions on, the following key points:

- Feasibility of volumetric charging for wastewater – could charge as a fee, however Council would need to consult with the community before considering such an approach.
- Project was slightly behind timetable; focus was still to achieve deadline.

Resolved: (Mr Ion/Mr Wright)

THAT the report from the General Manager Service Delivery be received.

CARRIED

WGBI912/08

The meeting adjourned from 10:33am to 10:42am.

Letter - Ohinewai Servicing for Three Waters
Add Agenda Item 5.5

Tabled Item: Draft letter from the Board to Waikato District Council RE Ohinewai Servicing for Three Waters.

The Chief Executive and General Manager Service Delivery summarised the background to the draft letter tabled for the Board's consideration. The Council's planning team had reviewed the draft letter. It was intended that the letter would inform the Proposed District Plan process.

Following discussion, it was suggested the proposed timeframe for infrastructure installation (i.e. between 5 and 10 years) be qualified by noting:

- The timeframe was the fastest that servicing could be provided (5 years for water servicing; 10 years for wastewater servicing);
- The timeframe was dependent on a number of variables which remained uncertain at this stage.

Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)

THAT the tabled letter to the Waikato District Council be amended as suggested; and

AND THAT the Board approve for staff to work with the Chairperson to finalise and send the letter.

CARRIED

WGBI912/09

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Agenda Item 6

Resolved: (Mr Ion/Mr Wright)

THAT the report from the Chief Executive be received;

AND THAT the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion on the following items of business:

i. Confirmation of Minutes dated Wednesday, 20 November 2019

REPORTS

a. Watercare Risk Report

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

Reason for passing this resolution to withhold exists under: **Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution is:**

**Section 7(2)(b)(ii)
Section 7(2)(j)**

Section 48(1)(a)

b. Consenting Strategy – Raglan Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge Consents (Renewal)

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

Reason for passing this resolution to withhold exists under: **Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution is:**

**Section 7(2)(b)(ii)
Section 7(2)(j)**

Section 48(1)(a)

c. Te Kauwhata Water Association Overview

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

Reason for passing this resolution to withhold exists under: **Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution is:**

**Section 7(2)(b)(ii)
Section 7(2)(j)**

Section 48(1)(a)

d. Actions Table

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

Reason for passing this resolution to withhold exists under: **Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution is:**

**Section 7(2)(b)(ii)
Section 7(2)(j)**

Section 48(1)(a)

e. Contract Financial Report

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

Reason for passing this resolution to withhold exists under: **Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution is:**

Section 7(2)(b)(ii)

Section 48(1)(a)

AND FURTHER THAT Ms Danks (Waikato Business Manager, Watercare) and Mr R Pullar (Infrastructure Delivery Manager, Watercare) be permitted to remain in the meeting, after the public has been excluded, to assist the Board in its consideration of the Public Excluded reports.

CARRIED

WGB1912/10

Resolutions WGB1912/11 – WGB1912/17 are contained in the public excluded section of these minutes.

Having resumed open meeting and there being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 11:45am.

Minutes approved and confirmed this

day February 2020.

Rukumoana Schaafhausen
CHAIRPERSON