

**MINUTES** for a meeting of the Waters Governance Board Meeting of the Waikato District Council held at Matahuru Marae, 19 Johnson Road, Ohinewai on **TUESDAY, 30 AUGUST** commencing at **9.00AM**.

**Present:**

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

**Attending:**

His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson  
Cr AD Bech  
Cr JD Sedgwick  
Ms C Nutt (Waters Contract Relationship Manager)  
Mr K Martin (Waters Manager)  
Mr D Sharma (Three Waters Reform Project Manager)  
Ms Z Al-Khaleefa (Three Waters Contract Engineer)  
Mr S Toka (Iwi & Community Partnerships Manager)  
Ms N Armstrong-Nield (Iwi & Community Partnerships Advisor)  
Mr R Pullar (Watercare)  
Mr S Howard (Watercare)  
Mr M Telfer (Watercare)  
Mr G Miers (Watercare)  
Mr P Crabb (Watercare)  
Ms K Flavell (Waikato Tainui)  
Ms A Taio (Waikato Tainui)  
Mr G Tupuhi (Nga Muka)  
Mr P Kingi (Nga Muka)  
Mr P Tupuhi (Nga Muka)  
Ms K Johnson (Nga Muka)  
Ms E Jonathan (Nga Muka)  
Mr T Nikau (Matahuru Marae)  
Mr S Nikau (Matahuru Marae)  
Ms J Kelly (Te Kauwhata Water Association)  
Ms P Ranga (Waikato)

Ms E Saunders (Democracy Advisor)

5 Members of the Public

## **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

No apologies were received and all members were present.

## **CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Dibley)**

**THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Waters Governance Board Meeting held on Tuesday, 30 August 2022:**

- a. be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting, with the exception of those items detailed at Agenda item 7, which shall be discussed with the public excluded;
- b. in accordance with Standing Order 9.4 the order of business be changed with agenda item PEX2 – Action Register being considered at the conclusion of all other PEX agenda items.

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/01**

## **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

It was noted that Mr Wright is no longer a Trustee of The Solomon Island Development Fund.

**ACTION:** Democracy Team to update the register of interest to the changes to Mr Wright's roles.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved: (Mr Ion/Ms Schaafhausen)**

**THAT the minutes for a meeting of the Waters Governance Board Meeting held on Tuesday, 19 July be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/03**

**NOTE:** Ms Collier made a comment around mana whenua and how they were notified around overflow events particularly with Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr Ion responded that a discussion was had after a visit to the Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant last week and Mr Martin confirmed that a process was in the works with notification to iwi and hapu taking place by staff and gaining an understanding of what they would like to take place as part of the notification process. A meeting had been arranged to occur over the next few weeks to confirm the process.

## **REPORTS**

### Actions Register Agenda Item 5

The Waters Manager noted the following matters:

#### Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant

Council and Watercare had started the work on the report regarding the plant upgrade. It was noted Council had approved \$2.1 million being bought forward in the Long Term Plan to enable the development of a concept design and resource consent application. A site visit was held on 22 August 2022 by Council staff and Watercare.

#### Port Waikato and Onewhero

Port Waikato and Onewhero Options Assessment was due in September 2022. No further updates for the board at this meeting.

#### Pokeno Tuakau Wastewater Network

Proposal to bring Stages 2 & 3 was approved by Council and will bring together a Capital Works Programme to deliver that.

#### Consent Compliance

Mr Telfer to speak to this verbally in item 6.5. Mr Telfer apologised for the lateness in getting the reports into the board for consideration.

#### TK Wastewater Network

Funding solution and reduction in scope approved by WGB and Council. Ministry of Housing and Urban Development had acknowledged the change to scope within the HIF funding agreement and have approved provided the original scope is achieved via other council funding mechanisms.

**ACTION:** Retain action from previous meeting for a brief report to be provided at the next meeting showing the progress being made on the audit's recommendations.

**Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Ion)**

**THAT the Actions Register be received.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/04**

### Public Hui – Discharge into Lake Waikare and the Environmental Effects Agenda Item 6.1

#### Lake Waikare – Discharge in Lake

Discussion was held around the cultural and environmental impacts of continued discharge to Lake Waikare - Mr Tupuhi opened the forum and gave a brief history of the discharge into the Lake and the steps Nga Muka have taken to date to rectify the discharge and partnerships that have been formed with local farmers to control the effects.

Ms K Johnson provided a historical background into the concerns of Nga Muka and why they were against further discharging into Lake Waikare and the frustrations they had encountered when big developments had taken place without any acknowledgement or consideration to Nga Muka.

Mr S Howard provided an attachment to the group with the following key themes:

- Awareness (Recognition)
- Open Discussion (Broad Items)
- Discharge Workshopping
- Key Technical Queries

Mr Howard acknowledged the steps taken to date by Nga Muka and the discussion that was taking place.

Mr P Crabb provided an engineering background into the different options that were on the table for consideration:

- Pipe to wetland adjacent to Ruahine Northern Flood Gate
- Pipe to Pungarehu Canal North Side of Waerenga Road (Long Swamp) bridge

Mr Howard and Mr Crabb tabled seven (7) options that could be further investigated and sought feedback on the preferred options from the group. The group determined that the three (3) preferred options were:

- discharge to the pumice area or the area on the other side of the river.
- land discharge to the Maramarua forest noting this is to confirm this option is acceptable because of soil types and clay.
- Free-Flowing Option.

It was agreed that Watercare would continue to engage with both iwi and hapū throughout the process including the continuation of the partnership with iwi and Matahuru Marae with a view to keeping the dialogue open with the option of regular meetings if required.

**ACTION:** Watercare engineers to conduct further investigations into the options and provide detailed funding and analysis on the above options with final recommendation as to the best solution by February 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 12.08pm and resumed at 1.04pm.

## Three Waters Reform Project Update

### Agenda Item 6.2

Mr D Sharma spoke to the report which was taken as read. The following discussion was held:

- Mr Sharma provided an update on the Better Off Funding applications. It was anticipated that shortlisting the applications would be done by Friday and then presented to both the JMA Committee and WGB.
- The asset management plan (AMP) working group at the NTU had begun their programme of works. Under the Water Service Entities (WSEs), there would be four AMPs developed by the WSEs and approved by the WSE Board, instead of councils. The DIA was seeking to develop a national growth and land development framework between councils and WSEs.
- The Board required some assurance that the AMP was indeed factual, fair, reasonable and understood particularly for those that aren't engineers. Acknowledgement that there was limited time around these issues.
- Confirmed that the Management Working Group is being led by Hamilton City Council in conjunction with Waikato District Council.
- The Chief Executive would begin negotiating the terms of the Transition Support Package Funding Agreement with the DIA.
- Council would continue to collaborate with DIA for any information requests and advocate for the needs of our communities in the process.
- Staff are assessing whether external resources would be required to deliver on business as usual whilst responding to those requests.

**ACTION:** Recommended Better Off Funding applications to be provided by the end of September 2022.

**Resolved: (Mr Wright/Mr Dibley)**

**THAT the Three Waters Reform Project Update Report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/06**

## 2021/2022 Long Term Plan Performance Results & Service Summaries

### Agenda Item 6.3

Ms Nutt spoke to the report which was taken as read and the following discussion was held:

- No new abatement notices received during the year
- The target was met but result slightly slipped from last year
- Real Water Loss – met the target but slight deterioration

The Board confirmed that this was a good report with good results achieved.

Ms Nutt confirmed that it would have been nice to achieve more capital spend through the capital works programme.

Other achievements noted:

- Construction of the Ports of Auckland pump station commenced in Horotiu, which would become the primary pump station delivering wastewater flows to Ngāruawāhia.
- Stage I (bridge crossing) of the Ngāruawāhia pipeline from Waikato Esplanade to the Ngāruawāhia treatment plant was completed.
- We completed the renewal of Wainui Road rising main in Raglan.
- Continued collaboration with neighbouring councils to improve wastewater service delivery in the Waikato region.
- Cross-organisational collaboration was being conducted to assess options for the Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades and renewal of resource consent.
- Continued consultation and engagement on issues and projects with iwi, hapū and community groups.

Ms Schaafhausen reiterated her acknowledgement of what had been achieved over the year with all the different challenges to contend with – particularly Covid.

The Board wanted it noted in the minutes that they extended their gratitude to the Team for the work that had been done.

**Resolved: (Ms Schaafhausen/Mr Dibley)**

**THAT the Waters Governance Board:**

- a. receives the 2021/22 Long Term Plan Performance Results and Service Summaries report; and
- b. notes the performance targets for the 2021/22 financial year have been met.

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/07**

## Three Waters Governance Report August 2022

### Agenda Item 6.4

Mr Telfer spoke to the report and gave an overview of the key points.

- No Lost time injuries in July.
- All performance measures were achieved except water 'Resolution of urgent call-outs'. This failed measure reflects the complex repairs.
- The Scada delivery project was completed at the end of July, with the close-out completed in the first week of August.
- There was significant rainfall within the district across June and July. The teams managed three significant events across the district in July at the Ngāruawāhia Water treatment plant, the Huntly and Raglan wastewater plants, and the Ngāruawāhia bridge crossing. The events related to the heavy rainfall and the high river levels (detailed below). The Regional Council will be provided detailed reports for the wastewater events.
- Visits to the Meremere and Te Kauwhata sites were held in early August with Iwi, community representatives, and Council staff. The meetings were successful, and at the request of attendees, a similar visit was planned for Huntly WWTP before the next Water Governance Board meeting.
- Injury to highlight - An injury to shoulder at the start of August when pulling a 70mm hose on top of Clarifier # 5 to arrange drain down, currently on a sling and is put on light duties.

Mr Ion asked the question around Sub-Contractors and whether due diligence was being done to ensure Health & Safety procedures were being followed. Mr Telfer reiterated that due diligence was indeed being done with all staff and contractors.

Health & Safety report discussed by the Board in some length with clarification sought over the recorded injuries and what occurred. Mr Telfer answered questions raised by the board and gave clarification.

Raglan WWTP resource consent application preparation was discussed with questions raised by Ms Colliar. Mr Martin & Mr Telfer confirmed the progress that was being made and that the private land option remains a superior solution in contrast to the public land option. The complexities associated with land securement involving third-party agreement has been explained clearly throughout engagement to the key stakeholder group, which included Waikato Regional Council (WRC) representatives. A key issue experienced was the uncertainty of lodgement timelines.

The Board acknowledged the work of the Watercare Team in getting the SCADA project over the line by the due date.

**Resolved: (Ms Schaafhausen/Mr Ion)**

**THAT the Three Waters Governance Report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/08**

## Resource Consent Compliance Summary Update

### Agenda Item 6.5

#### Final Taumata Arowai Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules.

Level 3 treatment plant compliance adoption is proposed for Port Waikato and Onewhero WTPs to utilise continuous monitoring and avoid frequent site visits by operators but level 1 and 2 rules may be a preferred option for source and distribution modules.

- Overall, many existing supply operations adequately met the new Quality Assurance Rules that were published in July.
- General rules set out new reporting requirements that are significantly different to existing drinking water compliance regime reporting. Strict reporting processes are required. Compliance platforms (e.g., Wateroutlook, Infrastructure Data) require updating and a well-supported compliance platform will support meeting the rules.
- New continuous monitoring instruments were required at large treatment plants and there was a new option to use continuous monitoring instruments in the network to demonstrate compliance. This would be investigated further.
- Small supplies have lesser compliance requirements, but Watercare will utilise existing continuous monitoring instruments to demonstrate compliance and provided a higher level of assurance.
- Recommendations were made for reviewing the ultraviolet systems at Huntly and (soon to be installed) Ngaruawahia to create multi compliance barriers and improve treatment barrier resilience.
- Recommendations were made for reviewing the compliance monitoring points for Huntly and Ngaruawahia with regards to those supplies' connectivity to ensure compliance is met.
- Network rules required a more comprehensive oversight of backflow prevention systems by the water supply operator. Compliance with network hygiene rules would be achieved through the adoption and adherence of Watercare protocols.
- Sample schedules, sample points and supply zones require further review and updating to align with the new compliance rules and current operations.

Consent Compliance Summary points were raised with questions answered by Mr Telfer. Ms Colliar raised a question around the Ngaruawahia Wastewater Treatment Plant and the request to have relevant information detailed in the tables.

Ms Schaafhausen asked whether social media could be better utilised to promote the highlights and success of the team to the wider communities. A great opportunity to showcase some the work being done by the team.

**Resolved: (Mr Ion/Mr Dibley)**

**THAT Waters Governance Board Receive the Update**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/09**



## **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Agenda Item 7

**Resolved: (Mr Ion/Ms Schaafhausen)**

**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:

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
<b>Item PEX 1 Confirmation of Minutes Item number PEX 2 Action Register</b>	<b>Good reason to withhold exists under Section 6 or Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</b>	<b>Section 48(1)(a)</b>
<b>Item PEX 3.1 Waters Financial Results to 31 July 2022</b>		
<b>Item PEX 3.2 Waters Financial Results 2021/2022</b>		

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:

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Interest</b>
<b>Item PEX 1 Confirmation of Minutes Item number PEX 2 Action Register</b>	<b>Refer to the previous Public Excluded reason in the agenda for this meeting.</b>	
<b>Item PEX 3.1 Waters Financial Results to 31 July 2022</b>	<b>7 (2) (b) (ii)</b>	<b>To protect information that would otherwise unreasonably prejudice a person's commercial position.</b>
	<b>7(2)(h)</b>	<b>To enable commercial activities to be carried out without prejudice or disadvantage.</b>

Item No.	Section	Interest
<b>Item PEX 3.2 Waters Financial Results 2021/2022</b>	<b>7 (2) (b) (ii)</b>	<b>To protect information that would otherwise unreasonably prejudice a person's commercial position.</b>
	<b>7(2)(j)</b>	<b>To prevent use of the information for improper gain or advantage.</b>

**CARRIED**

**WGB2208/10**

*Resolutions WGB2208/11–WGB2208/15 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 3.07pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022.

David Wright  
**CHAIRPERSON**