

**MINUTES** for a meeting of the Rural-Port Waikato Community Board held in the Naike Community Hall, 3648 Highway 22, Naike, **THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2023** commencing at **6:30pm**.

**Present:**

Mr B Cameron (Chairperson)  
Ms L Fry (Deputy Chairperson)  
Ms R Costar  
Ms F Coker-Grey  
Cr CA Eyre

**Attending:**

(5) members of the public attended

Ms K Rhind (Senior Engagement Advisor)  
Ms S O’Gorman (General Manager, Customer Support)  
Ms R Leahy (Democracy Advisor)  
Mr M Telfer (Watercare)

**APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Resolved: (Ms Costar/ Cr Eyre)**

**THAT the apology from Cr Matatahi-Poutapu for non-attendance was accepted.**

**CARRIED**

**RPWCB2302/01**

**CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**Resolved: (Ms Coker-Grey/Ms Fry)**

**THAT the Rural-Port Waikato Community Board:**

- a. the agenda for a meeting of the Rural-Port Waikato Community Board held on Thursday, 23 February 2023 be confirmed, and all items therein be considered in open meeting;**
- b. all reports be received; and**

c. in accordance with Standing Order 9.12 the Board resolves that the following items be added to the agenda as a matter of urgency as advised by the Chairperson:

- Watercare Update (agenda item 6.10)

d. in accordance with Standing order 9.4 the order of business be changed with Standing Order 9.4 the order of business be changed with agenda item 5 [Public Forum] being considered after agenda item 6.10 [Watercare Update].

**CARRIED**

**RPWCB2302/02**

### **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolved: (Ms Costar/Ms Coker-Grey)**

**THAT the minutes for a meeting of the Rural-Port Waikato Community Board held on Monday, 14 November 2022 and Wednesday, 7 December 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

**CARRIED**

**RPWCB2302/03**

### **REPORTS**

Watercare Update  
Agenda Item 6.10

Mr Telfer from Watercare attended the meeting and provided a verbal update. The following discussion was noted:

- Mr Telfer provided an update on the stormwater and flooding issues in Port-Waikato that were as result of Cyclone Gabrielle and previous storm events. Landslides in the area impacted property and affected drainage.
- It was noted that general maintenance work plans for Port-Waikato had been created three-months ago, however, bad weather over the summer period impacted the timeframes for working on stormwater systems.
- Mr Telfer explained how open drains in Port Waikato were cleaned. It was noted that the purpose of an open drain is to move the water not to drain the water.

- Road access and power shortages were two major problems that Watercare faced when trying to resolve the stormwater and flooding issues in Port-Waikato during the cyclone.
- It was noted that a larger pump would not have had much of an impact on stormwater. In future, Watercare was considering having a generator on standby at Port-Waikato in the days leading up to severe weather events.
- *Was the primary pump working even when the power supply was on?* The pump was working and there had never been an issue with that pump, however, the pump would not work without power.

**ACTION:** Watercare to send drainage works plan to community board who would pass it on to the community.

- *What accountabilities are in the plan to see if the action takes place?* Watercare were asking the community what needs to be done and if anything had been missed.
- *When was the last time the drains were cleaned out?* It was not clear when the drains were last cleaned. The plan was to clean all the drains and moving forward ensure everything was up to date.
- *Did the high river level from the first event make the situation worse in Port-Waikato?* The high river may have had an effect. The water table, fluctuating tides and sand all affect the ability for water to move and drain away.
- It was noted that drainage issues need to be communicated to council using the official channels.

**ACTION:** Watercare to communicate through their Facebook pages on how to report issues to council using the official channels.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

- A discussion was held about the local gym in Naikē. It was noted that the gym received money from the Better Off Fund.
- A discussion was held around pool cleaning chemicals for community pools. It was noted that there is a commitment in the Discretionary Fund for this.

**ACTION:** General Manager Customer Support to investigate if a blanket resolution for funding chemicals for community pools was possible.

## **REPORTS**

### Community Board Executive Council Representative Vote Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [RPWCB2302/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

- The Board agreed to put forward Allan Sole to represent Zone 2 for the Community Board Executive Council.

**Resolved: (Mr Cameron/Ms Fry)**

**THAT the Rural-Port Waikato Community Board votes for Allan Sole to represent Zone 2 for the Community Board Executive Council.**

**CARRIED**

**RPWCB2302/03**

Works, Actions and Issues Report  
Agenda Item 6.3

The report was received [RPWCB2302/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

Lighting at Port Waikato

**ACTION:** Remove lighting from the actions register. Staff to confirm maintenance schedule.

Onewhero Area School Road Safety

- A concern was raised about the speed of the project. It was noted that Cr Eyre has asked the Service Delivery Manager about the project.

**ACTION:** General Manager Service Delivery to provide the Board with a road safety plan for Onewhero Area School.

Service Requests

- The system can't currently create a specific report for the Rural-Port Waikato area. However, this will be part of an upgrade scheduled for June/July 2023.

Roading Issues

**ACTION:** Roothing team to contact Chair about doing a drive around the Rural-Port Waikato area.

Community Board Funding Page

**ACTION:** Ms Coker-Grey to set up a Community Board Facebook page.

Cleaning Drains – Onewhero

**ACTION:** Ms Costar to put in a service request about drainage in Onewhero.

### Sunset Beach Toilet and Carpark

- It was noted that the toilets needed further strengthening and the work took longer than expected. The existing toilets will remain open until the new ones are installed. Council will liaise with the community on when the best time for installation.

### Appointment of Discretionary Funding Representative

#### Agenda Item 6.4

The report was received [RPWCB2302/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

- The Chairperson nominated Ms Coker-Grey as the funding representative.

#### **Resolved: (Mr Cameron/ Ms Costar)**

**THAT Ms Coker-Grey be appointed to be the funding representative for the Rural-Port Waikato Community Board 2022-2025 triennium.**

#### **CARRIED**

**RPWCB2302/04**

### Discretionary Fund Report

#### Agenda Item 6.5

The report received [RPWCB2302/02 refers], and the following discussion was held:

- Further discussion was held around community pools and cleaning chemical funding.

**ACTION:** Funding representative to go back to the community pools and see if they need funding for pool chemicals.

### Waikato District Council Executive Update

#### Agenda Item 6.6

The General Manager, Customer Support provided a verbal update on Council and the following points were noted:

- It was noted that the community was experiencing delays in timeframes, particularly with regulatory frameworks.
- Discussion was held around civil defence and emergency management. Nine (9) or ten (10) FTE would be committed to the recovery programme which would impact teams with their business as usual work.

### Chairperson's Report

#### Agenda Item 6.7

The Chairperson provided a verbal report, and the following points were noted:

- The Chairperson noted the tragic loss of a person during the recent rain event and acknowledged the work of the fire brigade in Port-Waikato.
- The Chairperson raised a concern about speed limit changes which had become too complicated, particularly around the Tuakau Bridge. There were multiple speed limit changes within a 3km distance. It was noted that a review was being done on how the speed limit bylaw schedule was implemented.

### Councillors' Report

#### Agenda Item 6.8

Cr Eyre provided a verbal report, and the following points were noted:

- The Mayor and Cr Eyre met with Minister Mahuta and discussed the regional recovery response. At the meeting it was reiterated that the Port-Waikato area and rural landowners were significantly impacted by the event.
- It was noted that Council submitted on the Natural and Built Environment Bill and Spatial Planning Bill.

**ACTION:** Cr Eyre to send the Community Board submissions on the Natural and Built Environment Bill and Spatial Planning Bill.

- A question was asked if underground assets such as pipes and drains were insured.

**ACTION:** Staff to investigate if underground assets are insured.

### Community Board Members' Report

#### Agenda Item 6.9

Ms Fry provided a verbal update, and the following points were noted:

- Ms Fry gave an update on erosion issues affecting Port-Waikato.
- There were seven (7) red stickered houses and 13 yellow stickered houses as a result of the event. The fire brigade worked non-stop for five days until moving into the recovery phase.
- There was a project taking place to make the Yacht Club (which is owned by Waikato District Council) a historical building.

Ms Costar provided a verbal update, and the following points were noted:

- Ms Costar thanked the civil defence team and discussed working on a civil defence plan for her area.
- There was discussion on communicating road closures. It was noted that if a closed road is not appearing on the council website then to contact the Civil Defence Team.

Ms Coker-Grey provided a verbal update, and the following points were noted:

- It was noted that Glen Murray was not badly affected by the cyclone, however, there was a power outage for 12 hours that was difficult to manage.
- A discussion was held around creating a community civil defence response plan.
- It was noted that many rural communities had been assisting with the response in Hawkes Bay.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8:51 pm.

Minutes approved and confirmed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

B Cameron  
**CHAIRPERSON**