



## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL MĀORI COMMITTEE

**Date:** Wednesday, 2 December 2009

**Time:** 10.15am

**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Hawke's Bay Regional Council  
159 Dalton Street  
NAPIER

**Present:** M Mohi - Chairman  
T Gilbertson  
C Scott  
N Taylor  
M Apatu  
P Paku  
C Lambert  
H Hiha  
T Tareha  
M Black  
A Tipene  
H Hilton

**In Attendance:** A Newman – Chief Executive  
A Dick - Chairman  
P Drury – Group Manager Corporate Services  
B Corbett – Group Manager Water Initiatives  
G Clode – Manager Engineering  
S Harper –Groundwater Scientist  
E Petuha – Consents Officer  
C Nicholson – Consents Officer  
M Drury – Minute Secretary

**1. KARAKIA – HEITIA HIHA**

**2. WELCOME/KARAKIA/APOLOGIES**

Chairman Mohi welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that agenda items would be discussed out of order.

Apologies were received from Councillors Remmerswaal and McGregor and F McRoberts.

Chairman Mohi advised that V. Wairau was in hospital.

**Mohi/Black  
CARRIED**

**3. SHORT TERM REPLACEMENTS (S) ON COMMITTEE**

**Resolution:**

That Councillor Scott be appointed as a member of the Māori Committee of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council for the meeting on Wednesday 2 December 2009 as a short term replacement on the Committee for Councillor McGregor.

**Mohi/Gilbertson  
CARRIED**

**9. UPDATE REPORT ON CURRENT ISSUES BY CEO**

Mr Newman updated the Committee about ongoing discussions held with various interest groups and councillors in regards to Treaty settlement issues.

Mr Newman also advised the Committee on current projects which were being undertaken by the Regional Affairs Committee across New Zealand and emphasised the importance of ongoing communication with iwi for successful outcomes.

Consideration was also being given to introducing a uniform process whereby information could be published on the web around water issues which would include water allocation and water quality.

Mr Apatu expressed concern in regard to the closing date of the Strategic Policy Advisor job vacancy. Mr Newman confirmed that Council had received several applications for the Strategic Policy Advisor job vacancy.

Mr Paku advised that a hui would be held in January for Treaty claimants. There would be several workshops and he requested Council consider facilitating a workshop and funding the hui.

**Resolution:**

That the Committee receive the CEO's verbal report.

**Tareha/Paku  
CARRIED**

**13. RATES REMISSION POLICY**

Mr Drury presented this agenda item and advised Committee members they could facilitate and encourage further rate remission applications from Maori owners of freehold land by completing an application form for remission of rates on Maori

freehold land. This application form was set up following a policy decision by Council on September 2003.

Mr Drury noted Council considered rate arrears on multiple owned Maori land was not a major concern as the main areas covered by rate arrears were considered "unproductive" land where no income was generated. Mr Drury also described the process Council undertakes to write off arrears of rates which are still outstanding after six years.

The Committee discussed Council's policy on rates remission and noted that multiple land in most cases does not have a legal Trust and records held by the Maori Court are often incomplete as such records are only as complete as the information received by the Court.

Responding to a question from Mr Black, Mr Drury confirmed that Maori Land had been changed to General Land without a consent in the past but that this practise was not now possible because of the provisions within Te Ture Whenua Act (1993).

**Resolution:**

1. That the Maori Committee:
  1. Receives the report on the collection of rates in 2008/09.
  2. Recommend the remission application process to relevant organisations they are involved with.

**Black/Apatu  
CARRIED**

**Chairman Dick joined the meeting at 11.00am**

**11. UPDATE ON WATER INITIATIVES GROUP ACTIVITIES**

Mr Corbett updated the Committee on water issues and finding solutions to the ongoing problem of a shortage of water in the region. Mr Corbett stressed there was no one solution to the water problem but following the investagory study which had recently been completed, the next stage would be the pre-feasibility study which would look at the options available and the problems which could be encountered.

Mr Corbett stated it was important that all parties concerned have a strong input into the pre-feasibility study and he was more than happy to participate in hui with Maori to talk through the many issues. These could involve cultural and environmental issues, water systems issues and the economic potential of a water storage scheme.

The Committee discussed the proposed pre-feasibility study and what impact it may have on Maori. It was stated that a river is part of the over-all environment, there was a beginning involving Ranginui -the sky father and Papatuanuku - the earth mother. Water was there for everyone, no one owned the water and all natural resources were considered in a similar light.

The Committee also discussed tangata whenua's involvement in the pre-feasibility study and confirmed their support for ongoing conversation in order to build strong relationships. It was noted that as Treaty claims evolve, Maori culture should not be displaced or be downgraded in pursuit of economic gain.

Mr Newman agreed that it was important that all the studies be undertaken in a parallel way which would result in one final solution.

**Resolution:**

That the Committee receive Mr Corbett's verbal report.

**Paku/Tareha  
CARRIED**

**10. UPDATE REPORT ON TE KARAMU AND PROPOSED FUTURE WORK**

Mr Clode advised that Council were enthusiastic to progress work on Te Karamu, however, to date there had been a lack of feedback from tangata whenua. Mr Clode drew the Committee's attention to a letter sent out in August requesting input for a hui to be set up for discussions on Te Karamu but to date no responses had been received by Council.

Mr Clode advised that on Saturday, 5 December there would be a Ngati Hawea hui at Ruahapia to discuss the catchment review and options for enhancement of Te Karamu. Council staff would be present and he hoped there would be strong participation from iwi.

Mr Clode gave a Power-point presentation which outlined Council's proposals for Te Karamu and highlighted some of the issues which would need to be resolved prior to work commencing on the project.

The Committee discussed issues highlighted in the presentation and agreed it was important for Te Karamu to be restored and input from tangata whenua was required as wahi tapu sites were involved in the project.

**Resolution:**

That the Committee receive Mr Clode's verbal report.

**Mohi/Hilton  
CARRIED**

**12. TWYFORD/RUAPARE WATER TAKE RENEWALS**

Ms Petuha advised in May 2009, 258 resource consents to take water in the Twyford/Ruapare zone of the Heretaunga Plains aquifer expired. These consents were last renewed in 1997 or were granted in the interim and given a consistent renewal date to allow for the cumulative effects of all takes to be assessed together when the resource consents expired.

Ms Petuha also advised that a scientific report had been commissioned. Applications for water takes that would affect surface water would be notified and it was planned that all applicants and interested parties and notably tangata whenua would be kept updated on progress. Costs for water takes would be in the vicinity of \$900 - \$2,000 depending on the requirements of the consent.

Mr Harper gave a Power-point presentation which highlighted the findings of the scientific report.

Mr Black updated the Committee on a recent meeting held with land and water users in the subject area. The meeting agreed it was imperative for water quality to remain high and a further meeting was planned in the near future.

**Resolution:**

1. That the Committee receives the report titled '*Twyford / Raupare Water Take Renewals*'.

**Black/Apatu  
CARRIED**

**8. JAN HANIA POUMANAHARE – DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**

**Chairman Mohi welcomed Mr Hania to the meeting.**

Mr Hania described the conservancy changes which had occurred in the Department of Conservation over recent months. The actual Hawke's Bay conservancy had increased in size similar to the Hawke's Bay Council rohe.

Mr Hania advised there would also be significant changes in the way DoC wished to work in the future particularly in the relationship with iwi and the establishment of a forum where ongoing discussions could occur.

**Resolution:**

1. That the Committee receives the verbal report from Jan Hania Poumanahere - Department of Conservation.

**Paku/Black  
CARRIED**

**15. NEW ZEALAND HISTORIC PLACES UPDATE**

Mr Tipene gave a Power-point presentation which highlighted ongoing work being undertaken by the NZ Historic Places Trust at wahi tapu sites and other projects of historic interest.

**Resolution**

1. That the Committee receives the verbal report from Mr Tipene.

**Hiha/Apatu  
CARRIED**

**14. RMA AMENDMENTS**

Ms Nicholson presented this agenda item and outlined the areas where iwi may be affected both as an applicant and as a submitter. Ms Nicholson also noted that iwi could now request independent commissioners for hearings but as the requestor they would be liable to pay the additional costs of using an independent commissioner. The Committee's attention was also drawn to an increase in the fee for lodging an appeal with the Environment Court. This fee had been increased from \$50.00 to \$500.00.

The Committee discussed the RMA Amendments and the impact those amendments would have on iwi. Mr Black advised iwi had been involved in the consultative process prior to the amendments becoming law.

Councillor Scott noted that there were two Maori Committee representatives on the Hearing Panel and hoped the amendments would not result in difficulties in the

hearing process and that there was now more emphasis placed on meetings to be held prior to the hearing process.

**Resolution:**

1. That the Committee receives the report titled "RMA Amendments".

**Apatu/Black  
CARRIED**

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2009**

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 27 October 2009, a copy having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed.

**Apatu/Hiha  
CARRIED**

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2009**

There were no matters arising.

**6. ACTION ITEMS FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Chairman Mohi noted that Mr Apatu had supplied a list of contacts for the Heretaunga Marae for Civil Defence purposes. Chairman Mohi requested that other marae forward names to Mr Moule.

**Resolution:**

1. That the Committee receives the report "Action Items from the Maori Committee meetings.

**Mohi/Black  
CARRIED**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS**

There were no general business items.

**Closure:**

There being no further business the Chairman thanked all Committee members for their participation in the meetings this year and wished everyone a happy and safe Christmas.

Chairman Mohi declared the meeting closed at 1.15pm after karakia by Haami Hilton.

Signed as a true and correct record.

**DATE:** .....

**CHAIRMAN:** .....

