



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Date: Tuesday 12 May 2009

Time: 9.00am

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

Present: A J Dick – Chairman
T Gilbertson
N Kirton
E McGregor
L Remmerswaal
K Rose
C Scott
E von Dadelszen
F Wilson

In Attendance: A Newman – Chief Executive
P Drury – Group Manager Corporate Services
H Codlin – Group Manager Strategic Development
M Mohi – Chairman – Maori Committee
C Gilbertson – Administration Manager

1. WELCOME/PRAYER/APOLOGIES/NOTICES

Chairman Dick welcomed everyone to the meeting and called upon Councillor von Dadelszen to deliver the prayer.

Councillor von Dadelszen advised she would be leaving the meeting at 11.30am to make a Council submission to the select committee.

Council then held a moment of silence for the slain police officer, Len Snee, and also for the other police officers involved in the tragedy in Napier last week, and their families. Chairman Dick advised he would be attending the funeral for Mr Snee.

The Chairman notified Councillors of a number of meetings being held during the next few weeks, these were:

- Meeting with Central Hawke's Bay Council on 18 June at HBRC
- Meeting with the Ministry for the Environment on 10 June on air quality which involved Mayors and Chief Executives of the TAs
- Meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture on 21 May which will be focussed on CHB issues around water. Councillor Gilbertson, the Chairman and the Chairman of the Maori Committee will take part in this meeting.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

3. THE MAKING AND ATTESTING OF THE DECLARATION REQUIRED BY MEMBER FOR WAIROA

Mr Newman advised the By-election for the Wairoa Constituency was held on Friday, 24 April. Mr Fenton David Wilson was declared as the successful candidate following the release and declaration of the final results. Mr Newman then called upon Mr Wilson to make and attest the required declaration.

Councillors congratulated Mr Wilson on becoming a Councillor. Councillor Fenton thanked the Councillors and advised he was looking forward to working with them.

Resolutions:

1. That the Council:
 - 1.1. Agrees that the decisions to be made are not significant under the criteria contained in Council's adopted policy on significance and that Council can exercise its discretion under Sections 79(1)(a) and 82(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 and make decisions on this issue without conferring directly with the community and persons likely to be affected by or to have an interest in the decision due to the nature and significance of the issue to be considered and decided.
 - 1.2. Note that Mr Fenton David Wilson made the required declaration under Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act.

**Dick/Scott
CARRIED**

4. CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

- i. Governance Workshop on Local Government Reform
- ii. Porangahau Hearing
- iii. Leave of Absence
- iv. Haumoana/Te Awanga Situation
- v. Newspaper Report
- vi. Change of Asset Management/Biosecurity Meeting Date
- vii. Microphones

5. TUKITUKI MONITORING REVIEW REPORT

Mr Newman advised that Council had considered this item at 22 April Council meeting where it was left to lie on the table.

Staff have further considered giving action to the recommendations of the monitoring review report and propose an approach that will reinforce the value of scientific studies while putting greater emphasis on solution based investigative work and remedial initiatives that can be undertaken in parallel with the science and policy work.

Mr Newman said it was important that the process to deal with the Tukituki had an “and-and” approach and that it was preferable for Council to look at an initial 5 year process with the Tukituki before moving beyond that.

In response to a question Mr Newman advised that the physical works (creating wetlands within the drainage system), subject to budget becoming available, would start in the new financial year.

Councillors asked what role the Tukituki Liaison Group had whether the Group was still in existence. Mrs Lambert advised that the Group was continuing to meet, had initially focused on knowledge sharing and was now working through the values and issues identification process. The intention was for the Group to work through the issues to reach consensus on specific actions that they would then present to Council. Councillors stated that it was pleasing to see that the Liaison group has some status in these Council processes.

Councillors discussed the approach put forward in the recommendations and said it was excellent progress for the Tukituki. There are some good things happening in the Tukituki catchment and Council should celebrate these. Councillors also encouraged the Chief Executive to move on this as expeditiously as possible, and said they would like to see the active interventions put in place as soon as possible.

The focus must remain on holistic science, policy, and regulation programmes to integrate catchment management for the Tukituki.

The Chairman said that Council must be a high performing organisation and work in a strategic way with action being the primary focus as this way we will prove our worth to the regional community in the next few years.

A Councillor requested that consumers be encouraged to buy low or phosphorous free detergents and while this was already being done to some extent, Mr Sevicke-Jones suggested that Central Hawke’s Bay District Council should be encouraged to look at this through their resource consent application and public education processes to bring consumers on board.

There was a suggestion that the Monitoring Review report should have been first dealt with by the Environmental Management Committee and the Chairman took note of that.

Resolutions:

1. That Council:

1. Receives the report titled "*Review of Monitoring in the Tukituki Catchments Hawke's Bay*".
2. Instructs staff to consider the recommendations of this report when:
 - 2.1 Assessing the effectiveness of Council's scientific monitoring and investigation programmes, including changes needed in Council's scientific programmes – notably:
 - Accommodating the need for investigative work on drivers of land use on water quality programmes and additional monitoring as identified in the review;
 - Council will discuss in more detail the specific recommendations in the report and their implications for the Council science programme at the July Environmental Management meeting.
 - 2.2 Council also wishes to reinforce the need to improve water quality and whole of catchment values including biodiversity and habitat, within the Tukituki Catchment and its tributaries by taking a fully integrated approach to the challenge, including a combination of:
 - Continuing with the riparian retirement and wetland initiatives on farms for sensitive watercourses as identified in the Ruataniwha Plains Water resources Investigation June 2003, with the aim of having completed this process for those priorities over the next five years. (Noting that some 50% of the target areas have already been treated through joint work between the Council and landowners).
 - Systematically incorporating the concept of wetland management for nutrient stripping into the Council's flood and drainage schemes with the first target for this process being the Upper Tukituki scheme and more specifically drainage systems from the more intensively farmed systems such as the Tukipo catchment. Noting the further investigative work and costing will need to be undertaken over the next month prior to initiating this type of work. Once wetlands are established it is proposed that scientific monitoring of their effectiveness be undertaken.
 - Working with Central Hawke's Bay District Council to investigate and initiate cost effective approaches to reduce or remove Oxidation pond discharges into the river from Waipukurau and Waipawa.
 - 2.3 Continue to actively work with the Tukituki liaison group to develop shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities arising from these and other processes.
 - 2.4 Continue to incorporate both scientific findings and community feedback into policy tools and plan changes as knowledge improves.

- 2.5 Continue to apply the learning's from the Tukituki catchment processes to other key Hawke's Bay Catchments.

**Gilbertson/Scott
CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 10.20am and reconvened at 10.35am

6. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MAORI COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 APRIL 2009

Mr Mohi advised the following matters were considered by the Maori Committee on Tuesday 28 April and now presented to Council for consideration and approval.

Mr Mohi advised that the Maori Committee had also considered the Tukituki monitoring review report and that the Committee had advised that they would like to see the active interventions put in place as soon as possible.

Resolutions:

That Council:

- 1 Agrees to the appointment of Mr Peter Paku as one of the two Maori Committee representatives on the Environmental Management Committee.
2. Urgently explores active interventions that can be used to address issues in the Tukituki Catchment.

**Rose/Gilbertson
CARRIED**

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

i. Governance Workshop on Local Government Reform

Councillor Scott advised she had attended this workshop and tabled her report. She also said she hoped there would be a chance for Council to workshop some of the matters arising from that workshop.

ii. Porangahau Hearing

Councillor Scott advised the Porangahau Hearing was formally adjourned to allow the Central Hawke's Bay District Council and the iwi that were at this hearing to discuss a way forward as a commitment of working together. This would be a mediated process and once this has taken place the hearing will formally reconvene.

iii. Leave of Absence

Councillor Scott requested and was granted Leave of Absence for the Council meeting on 27 May.

Councillors then discussed whether it was appropriate to raise a Leave of Absence request in an open meeting and it was decided that the Leave of Absence requests would only record the date of the actual meeting a Councillor would be away rather than the period of time Councillors are away.

iv. Haumoana/Te Awanga situation

Councillor Rose gave an update on the public meeting recently held on the Haumoana/ Te Awanga issue. There was a good turnout at this meeting. Chairman Dick advised there is a commitment from the Council and the Hastings District Council to meet to determine the next form of engagement.

v. Newspaper report

There was recently an article in Countrywide magazine about a successful farm in Patoka featured in this publication. There was a suggestion that this Council hold a field day on a farm or education day where the council could go and see good farming work being done.

vi. Change of Asset Management/Biosecurity Meeting Date

Councillor Rose advised that the November meeting of the Asset Management/Biosecurity Committee would now take place on 10 November not the 12 November.

vii. Microphones

There was a query about whether all microphones could be left on at the same time. It was advised that while a number of microphones can be left on together it is not advisable as you do get background noises coming through.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 11.00am.

Signed as a true and correct record.

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: