



**Report 06.599**  
20 September 2006  
File: E/6/12/2

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee held in the Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council, 34 Chapel Street, Masterton, on Tuesday, 19 September 2006, at 9.30am.**

**Matters for Council decision are shown in bold type and enclosed in a box.**  
*Other matters for information of Council only are in italic type.*

**Present:**

Councillors Long (Chairperson), Baber, Buchanan, Kirton, Turver.  
Messrs Dalziell, McQueen, and Southey.

**Officers Present:**

G Dick, N Corry, D Cameron, S Forbes, I Gunn, S Hill, B Leonard, W O'Donnell, L Race, C Robertson, T Taylor.

**Public Business**

**Procedural Items**

**RSW 142 Apologies**

*Resolved*

*(Cr Turver/Cr Baber)*

*That the Committee*

*Accept the apology for absence from Mr Read, and the apology for lateness from Cr Kirton.*



- (3) *Recommends to Council that it:*
- (a) *Approves the expenditure of \$1,251,000 to undertake flood damage repairs in the Wairarapa, as set out in Attachment 1, and summarised as follows:*
    - (i) *1,213,000 for the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme, subject to the Advisory Committee approving the final design of Guscott's and Hikinui Sill.*
    - (ii) *\$20,000 for the Gladstone section of the Upper Ruamahanga River subject to the approval of the Advisory Committee.*
    - (iii) *\$18,000 for the Waipoua River subject to the approval of the Advisory Committee*
  - (b) *Approves the funding of the \$1,251,000 by withdrawal of \$625,500 from the Council's Flood Contingency Fund matched by equal contributions from the appropriate scheme reserves.*
  - (c) *Approves delaying the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme capital works programmed for 2005/06 until the year (or as amended during the 2007/08 annual plan update process).*
- (4) *Notes that it is likely that a request for additional funding for the isolated works budget will occur at the 6 month budget review.*
- (5) *Notes that investigations of the status of private stopbanks in the vicinity of Lake Wairarapa will commence shortly.*

## **Matter for Committee Decision**

**RSW 147      River Scheme Asset Management Plan Performance**

**Report 06.441**

**File: WO/02/20/10**

The Committee commented on the positive peer review undertaken on eight sites on the Waipoua, Waingawa and Upper Ruamahanga River Schemes and suggested that it would be appropriate for the review to be forwarded to members of the Scheme Advisory Committees for their information.

Members were advised that it was proposed to undertake an independent reciprocal arrangement with the Horizons Regional Council during 2007.

Cr Buchanan said that the flood damage report reflected on the enormous amount of effort made by staff to work with landowners to sort out what needed to be done after what had been a difficult winter. The result of the peer review was also a credit to staff who were to be congratulated for this outcome.

Cr Kirton arrived at 9.47am

*Resolved*

*(Mr Southey/Mr Dalziell)*

*That the Committee*

- (1) Receive the Asset Management Plan Performance Statements prepared for the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme; and the Waiohine-Mangatarere, Upper Ruamahanga – Mt Bruce, Upper Ruamahanga – Te Ore Ore, Upper Ruamahanga – Gladstone, Waingawa, and Waipoua River Management Schemes.*
- (2) Receive the August 2006 Audit of River Management Asset Maintenance Standards for the Wairarapa.*

## **Matters Reported for Information**

### **RSW 148 Wairarapa Hill Country – July 2006 Storm Damage**

**Report 06.453**

**File: WO/03/40/10**

Discussion focused on the demand for increased pole numbers for 2007 and onwards. It was noted that irrigation at the Akura Conservation Centre would increase pole production but there was still the need to source 10,000 – 15,000 poles externally for 2-3 years until the sustainable pole production level at Akura was known.

Members were advised that preliminary discussions with the Masterton District Council had been held concerning the potential use of their Homebush site as a joint venture with GWRC.

Cr Buchanan indicated that a significant national examination was underway by MAF and the Ministry for the Environment with major policy initiatives due to Cabinet by June 2007.

Members noted that Wairarapa Federated Farmers were holding a meeting on 21 September in the Frank Cody Lounge, Masterton District Council, to discuss improved erosion control on Wairarapa hill country. All councillors and appointed members were invited to attend.

*Resolved*

*(Cr Buchanan/Mr Dalziell)*

*That the Committee*

- (1) Receives the report*
- (2) Note the contents of the report.*

**RSW 149 Soil Quality Monitoring 2005-2006**

**Report 06.447**

**File: ENV/14/03/01**

Bruce Croucher, Contamination and Land Scientist, was present for the discussion on this item.

Members agreed that the report would be of considerable value to local fertiliser companies and farm consultants, and officers agreed to forward the report accordingly.

*Resolved*

*(Mr Southey/Mr Dalziell)*

*That the Committee*

- (1) Receives the report.*
- (2) Notes its content.*

**RSW 150 Divisional Managers' Report**

**Report 06.434**

**File: WS/08/05/01**

**Concerning 4.1 – BioWorks management team**

Additional papers informing the Committee of the performance of the BioWorks Business Unit for 2005/06 were circulated to Committee members prior to the meeting.

### **Concerning 4.3 – Dangerous Dams Policy**

Members were updated on the concerns that had been expressed on the terminology of “dangerous dams”. Explanatory wording would be used to avoid any misunderstanding.

### **Concerning 4.4 – Tauanui Logging**

Members were advised that negotiations were continuing with the contractor at Tauanui and it was expected that the matter would be settled within the next fortnight.

*Resolved*

*(Mr Southey/Cr Baber)*

*That the Committee*

- (1) Receives the report.*
- (2) Notes the content of the report.*

### **RSW 151 Akura Conservation Centre Review for the Year to 30 June 2006**

**Report 06.483**

**File: WO/03/80/03**

A revised Attachment 1 to Report 06.483 was tabled.

*Resolved*

*(Mr Dalziell/Mr McQueen)*

*That the Committee*

- (1) Receives the report.*
- (2) Notes the content of the report.*

Cr Kirton left the meeting at 11.42am.

**RSW 152 Reserve Forests Review for the Year to 30 June 2006**

**Report 06.487**

**File: WO/04/02/01**

*Resolved*

*(Mr Southey/Cr Baber)*

*That the Committee*

- (1) Receive the report.*
- (2) Note the contents.*
- (3) Approve the replanting of harvested areas in the winter immediately following harvesting.*

**RSW 153 Questions**

- (1) Cr Turver enquired as to his previously raised concerns regarding progress with improving communication with appointed members of the Committee to keep them up to date and involved with issues (for example the upcoming RPMS review) and matters requiring decisions of Greater Wellington.

Mr Dalziell indicated that as a representative of the ratepayers of the region it was essential to be kept up to date with issues. He considered that the representation review process was one case in particular where there had not been an opportunity for discussion at the Committee level. Members were advised that the final decision lay with the Local Government Commission.

- (2) The matter of the media reporting on items from the Committee order papers in advance of the scheduled meetings was raised.

Members were reminded that under the Official Information & Meetings Act, Committee order papers are required to be made available four working days prior to the meeting.

- (3) Mr Dalziell asked that Committee members be provided with a copy of the Catchment Management Division's structure once the process had been completed.
- (4) Mr Dalziell further requested that consideration be given to relevant staff names being reinserted in the next issue of the Wairarapa telephone directory. Having staff contacts was considered to be of significant value to rural landowners.

Officers agreed to follow up on the issues raised.

**RSW 154      General Business**

There were no items of general business.

At the conclusion of the meeting Wayne O'Donnell gave a presentation on ERMA's 1080 Re-assessment Application.

The Committee agreed that the Council forward a submission in support of retaining the use of 1080 as an effective pest control tool.

The meeting was adjourned between 10.50am and 11.05am for morning tea.

12.05pm      The meeting closed.

Cr F R Long  
CHAIRMAN

Date: