

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the Waters Governance Board Meeting of the Waikato District Council held via audio-visual conference on **TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST 2020** commencing at **9.02am**.

**Present:**

Ms R Schaafhausen (Chair) *[from 9.42am]*  
Mr D Wright  
Mr G Dibley  
Mr GJ Ion (Chief Executive, Waikato District Council)  
Ms J Colliar (Intern) *[from 9.32am]*

**Attending:**

Ms S Danks (Waikato Business Manager, Watercare)  
Mr T Paki (Senior Leadership Team - Waikato Tainui)  
Mr J Williams (Waikato River Authority)  
  
Mr I Cathcart (Special Infrastructure Projects Manager)  
Ms C Nutt (Waters Contract Relationship Manager)  
Mr C Bailey (Finance Manager)  
Ms C Pidduck (Legal Counsel)  
Mrs LM Wainwright (Committee Secretary)

**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

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

**THAT Mr David Wright be nominated as Chairperson for the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/01**

**APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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

**THAT an apology for lateness be received from Ms Schaafhausen and Ms Collier.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/02**

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

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

**THAT** the agenda for a meeting of the **Waters Governance Board Meeting** held on **Tuesday, 25 August 2020** be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda item 6 which shall be discussed with the public excluded;

**AND THAT** the following item be discussed at an appropriate time during the course of the meeting:

- **Item 5.2 – Te Ture Whaimana.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/03**

## **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Mr Wright advised the Board that his term as Chairperson for Wellington Water had ceased.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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

**THAT** the minutes of a meeting of the **Waters Governance Board Meeting** held on **Thursday, 23 July 2020** be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/04**

## **REPORTS**

### Actions Register Agenda Item 5.1

The Special Infrastructure Projects Manager, supported by the Waters Contract Relationship Manager, noted the following matters:

- Due to staff workload, some actions had not met the August deadline. The due dates on the report would be updated before the next meeting of the Board.
- Audit Process - Contact had been made with a potential supplier. A scope of work would be completed before going out to the market. The process had been placed on hold until the Annual Report had been completed.

**Action:** The date for completion of the audit process to be moved to October 2020.

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

**THAT the report from the Special Infrastructure Projects Manager be received.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/05**

### Waters Long Term Plan Performance Targets Result Agenda Item 5.4

The Waters Contract Relationship Manager and Ms Danks (Waikato Business Manager, Watercare) noted the following matters:

- Real water loss calculation data is correct but the data sitting behind it could be incorrect.
- Demand Management Plan – Watercare would review and update the plan within the current financial year.

**Action:** Watercare to report back to the next Board meeting with a plan for the balance of the year.

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

**THAT the report from the Special Infrastructure Projects Manager be received.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/06**

## Three Waters Performance Report – July 2020

### Agenda Item 5.5

Ms Danks noted the following matters:

- The Health & Safety reporting format had been updated to mirror the report produced to the Watercare Board. There were no reported injuries for the month of July. A safety walk by Watercare’s senior management had been held in July.
- Due to operations being quiet in July, Watercare carried out training of treatment plant operators.
- Construction Works - Geotech and stabilisation work had commenced at the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Plant. Preparation of the consenting strategy for Te Kauwhata had commenced and would be presented the next Board meeting.
- The 35 year consent application for Meremere Wastewater Treatment Plant had been delayed due to lockdown of Watercare’s Auckland team. Lodgement would be made within the first week in September.
- Raglan Wastewater Treatment Plant consent project – Iwi and stakeholder consultation had been held and options would be presented to them to assist with the decision-making process. There was a need to retain harbour outfall for winter.
- Shared Services – Transition would commence 1 October 2020.
- Condition assessment and asset remediation – The first project had commenced with wastewater pump station remediation work.
- Waikato District Council and Waters Governance Board would carry out site safety inspections throughout the year.

**Action** A schedule of site visits would be prepared for the Board with the priority being abatement notice sites.

**Action:** A summary of the completed AMP to be provided to Board members.

- Confined Space Training.

**Action:** Watercare to provide information on their training programme and safety requirements on site.

- Data Cleansing – Data had been lost due to a technical failure and resulted in estimating water consumption. Water readings had not been completed during the COVID-19 lockdown period.

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

**THAT the report from the Special Infrastructure Projects Manager be received.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/07**

Ms Collier joined the meeting at 9.32am during discussion on Item 5.5.

Ms Schaafhausen joined the meeting at 9.42am during discussion on Item 5.5 and assumed the Chair for the meeting.

Three Waters Service Delivery Reform Stimulus Programme  
Agenda Item 5.3

The Waters Contract Relationship Manager, supported by the Chief Executive and Legal Counsel, noted the following matters:

- Projects identified were funding for Futureproof Three Waters study, the detailed business cases, additional resource engineering skill cert, desludging, SCADA telemetry upgrade and renewals and extending wastewater, water reticulation renewals.
- Review of the MoU had been completed by Waikato District Council's Legal team.

**ACTION** A letter to be sent to the steering group and the Minister of Local Government on the method of engagement on the reform with iwi.

It was noted that Mr Ion would be meeting with the Department of Internal Affairs on 25 August 2020 and he would raise the issue of engagement with iwi with them.

**ACTION** Legal Counsel to report to the next Board meeting on the risks and implications of Council entering into the MoU.

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

**THAT the report from the Special Infrastructure Projects Manager be received;**

**AND THAT the Waters Governance Board notes the following:**

- **in July 2020, the Government announced an initial funding package of \$761 million to provide a post COVID-19 stimulus to maintain and improve water networks infrastructure, and to support a three-year programme of reform of local government water services delivery arrangements;**
- **initial funding will be made available to those councils that agree to participate in the initial stage of the reform programme, through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Funding Agreement, and approved Delivery Plan;**
- **this initial funding will be provided in two parts: a direct allocation to individual territorial authorities, and a regional allocation. The participating individual authorities in each region will need to agree an approach to distributing the regional allocation;**
- **the Joint Central/Local Government Three Waters Steering Committee has recommended a preferred approach to the allocation of regional funding, being the same formula as was used to determine the direct allocations to territorial authorities;**
- **the MoU and Funding Agreement cannot be amended or modified by either party, and doing so would void these documents;**
- **participation in this initial stage is to be undertaken in good faith, but this is a non-binding approach, and the Council can opt out of the reform process at the end of the term of the agreement (as provided for on page 5 of the MoU)**
- **Waikato District Council has been allocated \$5.67 million of funding, which will be received as a grant as soon as practicable once the signed MoU and Funding Agreement are returned to the Department of Internal Affairs, and a Delivery Plan has been supplied and approved (as described on page 5 of the MoU); and**
- **the Delivery Plan must show that the funding is to be applied to operating and/or capital expenditure relating to three waters infrastructure and service delivery, and which:**
  - **supports economic recovery through job creation; and**
  - **maintains, increases, and/or accelerates investment in core water infrastructure renewal and maintenance.**

**AND FURTHER THAT the Waters Governance Board:**

- **approves the MoU (attached as Appendix A of the staff report) and Funding Agreement (attached as Appendix B of the staff report), and authorises the signing of both documents;**
- **appoints the Chief Executive as the primary point of communication for the purposes of the MoU and reform programme (as referred to on page 6 of the MoU); and**
- **delegates authority to the Chief Executive to:**
  - a. make any decisions about the allocation of regional funding in order to secure the best arrangement possible for the Council; and**
  - b. complete and submit the Delivery Plan to Crown Infrastructure Partners,****in accordance with any direction provided by the Board.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/08**

Te Ture Whaimana  
Agenda Item 5.2

Tabled Item: PowerPoint Presentation

Mr Paki (Waikato Tainui) gave a presentation and discussed the following matters:

The history of the Waikato River and its people.

- Waikato River settlement.
- Vision and strategy for improving the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.
- Co-governance of the Waikato River.
- 

Tabled Item: PowerPoint Presentation – Waikato River Authority

Mr Williams (Waikato River Authority) gave a presentation and discussed the following matters:

- The implementation of Te Ture Whaimana.
- Vision and strategy for improving the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River.
- Functions - to set the primary direction through the vision and strategy, to achieve restoration and protection of the River, and to promote an integrated and holistic approach and fund rehabilitation initiatives.

The Board thanked Mr Paki and Mr Williams for their presentations.

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

**THAT the report from the Chief Executive be received.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/09**

Mr Paki and Mr Williams left the meeting at the end of the above item.

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Agenda Item 6

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

**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:

| General subject of each matter to be considered   | Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter   | Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution |
|---|---|--|
| Item 1<br>Confirmation of Minutes   | Good reason to withhold exists under Section 6 or Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 | Section 48(1)(a)   |
| Item 2.1<br>Actions Report  |   |  |
| Item 2.2<br>Contract Financial Report – July 2020   |   |  |
| Item 2.3<br>3 Waters Long Term Plan Schedule  |   |  |
| Item 2.4<br>Te Kauwhata Waters Association Water Supply and Operations Agreement - Update |   |  |



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:

| Item No. | Section     | Interest  |
|----------|-------------|---|
| I        |             | Refer to the previous Public Excluded reason in the agenda for this meeting.  |
| 2.1      |             | Refer to the previous Public Excluded reason in the agenda for this meeting.  |
| 2.2      | 7(2)(b)(ii) | To protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. |
|          | 7(2)(j)     | To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.   |
| 2.3      | 7(2)(b)(ii) | To protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. |
|          | 7(2)(j)     | To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.   |
| 2.4      | 7(2)(b)(ii) | To protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. |
|          | 7(2)(j)     | To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.   |

**AND THAT Ms Danks be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of her knowledge of Watercare. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because of Watercare's role and responsibility for those matters.**

**CARRIED**

**WGB2008/10**

