

Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee held in the Council Chamber, Canterbury Regional Council, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch on Tuesday 12 December 2017 starting at 1 pm

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Present

Chairperson	Andy Pearce
Community Representatives	
Hugh Canard	Nicky Hyslop
Cole Groves	Ross Millichamp
Vicky Southworth (from 3 pm)	
Zone Representatives	
Ben Curry	Ashburton
Ted Howard	Kaikoura
Thomas Kulpe	Banks Peninsula
John Talbot	Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora
Karaitiana Taiuru	Selwyn-Waihora
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene	Upper/Lower Waitaki
District Council Representatives	
Cr Nicole Reid	Mid Canterbury
Mayor Winton Dalley	North Canterbury
Peter McIlraith	South Canterbury
Christchurch City Council	
Cr Sara Templeton	

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu	
Rebecca Clements	
Ngā Rūnanga	
Riki Lewis	
Environment Canterbury	
Cr Claire McKay	

In attendance

Environment Canterbury - Lesley Woudberg (Team Leader Zone Facilitator, Stefanie Rixecker (Director Science), Tim Davie (Chief Scientist), Stephen Bragg (Tangata Whenua Facilitator), Anita Fulton (Senior Strategy Advisor – Water & Land), Jason Holland (Team Leader Planning – Land & Water), Dennis Jamieson (Project Leader Water Infrastructure), Peter Ramsden (Tangata Whenua Facilitator), Jodi Rees (Biodiversity Officer), Shelley Washington (Land Management Advisor), Maree Willetts (Principal Strategy Advisor), Louise McDonald (Committee Advisor).

Diane Shelander (Senior Policy Analyst) Christchurch City Council), John Benn (Department of Conservation).

Welcome

Ross Millichamp welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the Chairperson had been delayed and agreed to chair the meeting until Dr Pearce arrived.

Peter Ramsden opened the meeting with a karakia.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Jane Demeter (Community Representative), Michele Hawke (Hurunui-Waiiau), Lance Kenyon (Christchurch West Melton), Carlyne Latham (Waimakariri) Representative) and Cr Rod Cullinane (Environment Canterbury)

For lateness, Andy Pearce and Vicky Southworth.

2 Conflicts of interest

Ross Millichamp reminded members of the register of interests held for the committee. No conflicts were declared for any item on this agenda.

3 **Minutes of the previous meeting 10 October 2017**

Refer pages 7 - 13 of agenda

The general consensus of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee:

Confirmed the minutes of the Regional Water Management Committee meeting held on 10 October 2017, as true and correct record.

4 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5 **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

6 **Actions from the last Regional Council meeting**

Refer page 14 of the agenda

Jason Holland joined the meeting to provide clarification on issues raised by the Committee at the 10 October meeting:

Evolution of the regional planning approach

Jason described the evolution of the planning framework. The Land and Water Regional Plan was now operative, including Plan Change 4 (Omnibus) with Plan Change 5 (Waitaki sub-regional) well advanced. While there is work still to be done, Environment Canterbury is keen to shift efforts toward implementation and on-ground actions. Initiatives such as joint notifications and hearings of plan changes may free up resources to help make this happen. To keep the planning framework agile there will be regular omnibus plan changes to address region-wide issues and incorporate any sub-regional plans as needed.

Attendance:

Mayor Winton Dalley joined the meeting at 1.12 pm.

Role of consent reviews and plan changes

Jason explained that, while consents reviews can be expensive and open to challenge, Environment Canterbury will make use of them to align existing consents with new plans. This will be discussed with zone committees so that consent reviews can be planned and be part of a package that can be presented to Environment Canterbury.

There was a discussion about consent reviews and it was noted that there needs to be a conversation with the community to allay some confusion.

Alpine zones and braided rivers

Canterbury's braided rivers are nationally significant and hold many values and range of uses. There are limits and rules for braided rivers under a variety of planning

instruments including Water Conservation Orders, the Waitaki Allocation Plan and the Land and Water Regional Plan.

Jason explained that there is still work to be done on braided rivers and there were areas not yet addressed through the collaborative process. Environment Canterbury is awaiting final decisions from central government on National Planning Standards which may influence the timing of future stages of the planning programmes. His understanding was that the Regional Committee will have a role and this will be discussed with the Regional Committee before any process commences.

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Zone

The zone committee will have a draft Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP) Addendum ready for consultation mid December 2017. Feedback closes March 2018 and then the zone committee will consider feedback for the ZIP Addendum. Once the ZIP Addendum is finalised, work will begin to implement the recommendations, including the development of a sub-regional plan change to the Land and Water Regional Plan. This is expected to be notified mid-2018.

Jason congratulated the zone committee on a great job.

7 Waimakariri Groundwater

Refer page 15 of the agenda

Tim Davie provided an update on investigations into groundwater modelling north of the Waimakariri River – his notes were tabled “Waimakariri Study Summary’. He advised that the investigations will continue but it appeared that the Waimakariri River does not, as previously thought, provide a hydraulic barrier for deep groundwater to move from north to south of the river.

Attendance:

Andy Pearce joined the meeting at 1.50 pm

Noting that Environment Canterbury staff have been working with Christchurch City Council (CCC) staff, Cr Sara Templeton requested that information on Waimakariri Groundwater investigation also be shared with CCC councillors.

With thanks to Ross for chairing the meeting, Andy Pearce assumed the chair at 2.05 pm.

8.1 Funding for Te Waihora Weed Strike Force

Refer pages 16 to 17 of the agenda

Jodi Rees presented this report.

There was support for continuing weed control on Te Waihora, but concern was expressed regarding the use of chemicals. There was a robust discussion of the pros and cons of the proposal in the short and medium terms. In order not to lose momentum on the control of willow and weeds, it was agreed to approve the funding for the Weed Strike Force on the condition that alternative non-chemical methods be urgently investigated. Methods to be considered include controlled grazing and biological control.

The general consensus of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee:

- 1. Approve the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Working Group's recommendation to commit \$110,000 per annum for Financial Years 2019-2021 from the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee's Immediate Steps fund to Te Waihora Weed Strike Force.**
- 2. Request that Environment Canterbury undertake work to consider alternatives to the use of glyphosate and other chemicals and strongly recommend that Environment Canterbury finds the means to fund and investigate options to reduce or avoid chemical controls for further weed control at Te Waihora during the course of the next 3 years.**

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned between 2.58 and 3.15 pm.

Attendance:

Rebecca Clements left the meeting and Vicky Southworth joined the meeting during this time.

8.3 Braided Rivers

Maree Willetts tabled notes (Braided River Management & Certainty – BRIDGE Project Summary) and provided an update on the technical work being done to address the difficulty in defining the extent of river beds. This work includes looking at one in fifty year floodlines and will be shared with zone committees and land owners.

There will be further updates on this work to the Regional Committee early in 2018.

8.2 Regional Committee 2017 Annual Report, Biodiversity / Ecosystem Health

Refer pages 18 to 27 of the agenda

Lesley Woudberg presented this item.

It was agreed to look at targets at the March 2018 meeting in light of Central Government's proposed changes to the Crown Irrigation Investments mandate and funding.

9.1. 2017 Annual Report – Draft Outline

Refer pages 28 to 30 of the agenda

The following feedback was provided on the 2017 Annual Report – draft outline:

- Some of the wording was too positive – e.g. "winning the war on willows – Wainono Lagoon.
- Include updated data and context on the implementation of Good Management Practice on farms.
- Include some urban achievements.

It was agreed that the draft report would be revised to reflect the feedback. For the future work programme the following was suggested:

- Drinking water quality – Havelock North Enquiry.
- Invite Minister David Parker to meet with the Committee.
- Invite Minister Eugenie Sage to meet with the Committee on a separate occasion.
- Address the issue of sediments (e.g. Banks Peninsula)

10 **Zone Committee Updates**

Refer page 31 of the agenda

Waitaki

Sandra Hampstead-Tipene was delighted to report that after a lot of work the Waitaki Iwi Management Plan had been signed. She will be able to present this Plan to the Regional Committee at its next meeting. This had been a valuable learning experience for those involved in developing the iwi management plan and they looked forward to the opportunity to also present the plan to the Upper Waitaki, Lower Waitaki and Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Zone Committees.

Christchurch West Melton

Lesley Woudberg circulated information about the zone committee's engagement with city residents and how the committee is supporting other groups.

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora

John Talbot shared his zone committee's experience with public engagement noting that interest is often provoked by perceived threats. Field trips and holding meetings around the catchment have been successful.

Ashburton

Ben Curry reported that the Management Aquifer Recharge (MAR) project was continuing.

Kaikōura

Ted Howard advised that earthquake recovery work was still focus in Kaikōura. The community was looking forward to the reopening of State Highway 1 on 15 December 2017.

Banks Peninsula

Thomas Kulpe reported that the Whakaraupō/Lyttelton harbour catchment management plan was out for consultation. This plan includes aspirational goals for the protection of mahinga kai.

An area of concern for the committee is the monitoring of on-site wastewater systems.

Attendance:

Cr Sara Templeton left at 4.25 pm.

Selwyn-Waihora

Karaitiana Taiuru advised that the committee are working with Environment Canterbury communications staff to help provide more information to the public.

11. **Facilitators Update**

Refer pages 32 to 33 of the agenda

Lesley Woudberg presented this report that included the 2018 meeting schedule. Noting that the Irrigation NZ Conference will be held in Dunedin on 17 & 18 April, the April Committee Regional Committee meeting may be cancelled.

The facilitators update report was noted.

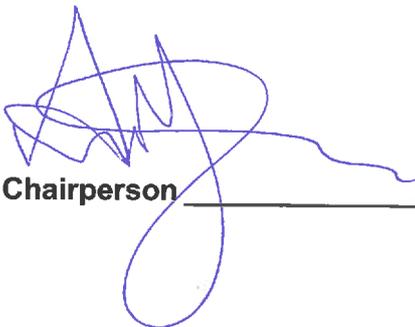
John Benn (Department of Conservation) (DOC) advised that representatives from DOC hoped to attend zone committee meetings in 2018, and the department would be happy to host field trips. Andy Roberts, Area Manager DOC would like to attend a meeting of the Regional Committee to provide an update on the department's work.

Andy Pearce thanked everyone for their contribution during the year.

The meeting closed at 4.35 pm, with a karakia from Karatitana Taiuru

Confirmed

Date 13 March 2018


Chairperson _____