

# Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee held in the Council Chamber, Canterbury Regional Council, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch on Tuesday 12 June 2018 starting at 1.00 pm

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## Present

<b>Chairperson</b>	Andy Pearce
<b>Community Representatives</b>	
Hugh Canard	Jane Demeter
Nicky Hyslop	Vicky Southworth
<b>Zone Representatives</b>	
Ted Howard	Kaikoura
Carolyne Latham	Waimakariri
Karaitiana Taiuru	Selwyn-Waihora
Les Wanhalla	Christchurch West-Melton
Ben Curry	Ashburton
Fiona Nicol	Banks Peninsula
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene	Upper/Lower Waitaki
<b>District Council Representatives</b>	
Mayor Winton Dalley	North Canterbury
Cr Nicole Reid	Mid Canterbury
Peter McIlraith	Southern Canterbury
<b>Christchurch City Council</b>	Cr Sara Templeton
<b>Ngā Rūnanga</b>	Riki Lewis
<b>Environment Canterbury</b>	Cr Claire McKay, Cr Peter Scott
<b>Central Government Observer</b>	Nick Vincent (Ministry for the Environment)

## **In attendance**

Diane Shelander (Senior Policy Analyst) Christchurch City Council),

Environment Canterbury: Lesley Woudberg (Team Leader Zone Facilitator), Caroline Hart (Programme Manager), Dann Olykan (Team Leader CWMS), Ian Whitehouse (Zone Facilitator) Anita Fulton (Senior Strategy Advisor), Dennis Jamieson (Project Leader-Water Infrastructure), Louise McDonald (Senior Committee Advisor)

## **Welcome**

Andy Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting.

He welcomed Fiona Nicol representing the Banks Peninsula Zone Committee to her first meeting.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Ross Millichamp, Alistair Humphreys, and Rebecca Clements

For lateness: Karaitiana Taiuru and Cr Sara Templeton

### **2 Conflicts of interest**

Andy Pearce reminded members of the register of interests held for the committee.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

### **3 Minutes of the previous meeting 13 March 2018**

*Refer pages 1 to 7 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 13 March 2018, subject to adding Jane Demeter as being present, as a true and correct record.***

### **4 Matters arising**

Noting the discussion at the 13 March meeting about the priority of certain proposals it was agreed to add the targets to the reports on projects.

Following the email sent to members with links to information of the cost of stock exclusion; an executive summary of the Ministry for Primary Industries economics unit will be circulated.

A report on the communications plan to educate people about urban stormwater quality issues including copper was requested for the next meeting of the committee.

## 5 **Correspondence**

*Refer pages 15 to 18 of the agenda*

Attached to the agenda was a covering message from the Chief Executive Environment Canterbury with a legal opinion confirming the powers of the zone committees. It was noted that this advice pertained to a specific issue raised by an outside party.

The advice was accepted but was felt that the relationship between the zone committees and Environment Canterbury should be more positively described. While advice and recommendations from the zone committees are not binding on Environment Canterbury, they are valued and taken seriously. It was acknowledged that often the next step in a process is determined by the Resource Management Act.

The Environment Canterbury representatives on the Regional Committee were asked to convey to the Council the Regional Committee's request that the positive nature of the relationship between the zone committees and the Council be reinforced when considering the legal position of the relationship. Information was requested on the provisions in the Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangement) Act 2016 in relation to the CWMS.

Karaitiana Taiuru joined the meeting at 1.25 pm.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### 6 **Next ten years of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy**

*Refer pages 19 to 39 of the agenda*

Dann Olykan introduced this report and described the collaborative process proposed to ensure that the CWMS was fit for the future needs of the region.

The Goals Working Group – terms of reference (attached to the report) were reviewed. There was discussion about the membership of the working group and the relationship with the existing sub-committee of the Regional Committee. Dann advised that the working group was for this distinct project and some members will be drawn from the sub-committees. The importance of getting a good mix of people was acknowledged and it was agreed that other people could be co-opted from the wider community on to the working group.

The meeting then broke into groups to provide some measurable goals for the following target areas:

- Environmental Limits
- Kaitiakitanga
- Ecosystem health and biodiversity/ natural character of braided rivers
- Drinking water / recreation and amenity opportunities

#### **Environmental Limits**

- Resource consents
- Review of nutrient loads and river flows in Plans

#### **Kaitiakitanga**

- Kaitiakitanga is a way of doing things and should be in everything we do
- Some measurable goals were suggested:
  - 50% of mahinga kai sites should be available to rūnanga:
  - 30% of values to be measured by 2025

- 50% of values to be measured by 2030

### **Ecosystem health and biodiversity/ natural character of braided rivers**

- Braided rivers
  - defined physical margins by 2025
  - unlock legal ownership of margins
  - have well-defined property rights
  - clarity around councils joined up approach
  - by 2030 – no more loss of area
  - by 2030 – a positive trend populations of braided river birds

### **Drinking water / recreation and amenity opportunities**

The group considered drinking water only. Note that the CWMS targets relate to protection of the drinking water sources (ground or surface water) and not drinking water post-treatment.

- focus in the strategy is correct – existing targets for 2010, 2015 and 2020 are still work in progress so could roll them forward

### **Questions/observations**

- nitrate concentrations – nitrates in the system. Targets need to reflect the fact that in some areas it'll get worse before getting better. Provide annual N maps to keep track.
- Should different contaminants be considered separately in the targets, eg. Pathogens and N, are the risks different?
- Should private and community wells be considered separately, again are the risks different? Are the locations of all private wells even known?
- technology – what opportunities are there for more intervention, eg. MAR, and what appetite is there for that from the community, affordability, etc.?
- need to know where to focus attention – is there sufficient monitoring and modelling to identify future risk areas/areas where existing treatment won't be sufficient?
- Source Water Quality Target 5 (Community Public Health/Drinking Water Standards) blurs into beyond source (source water targets and delivered water targets)
- Reduce duplication – the actions needed link to the environmental quality and flow limits

## **Acknowledgement of the Committee Chair**

Noting that this was the last meeting for the Chair, Cr Claire McKay on behalf of past and current Committee members thanked Dr Pearce for all his work on the Regional Committee. As chair for 8 years and for his work prior creating the CWMS. She praised his skills as chair and the clarity he provided.

Other committee members endorsed Cr McKay's comments acknowledging Andy's guidance, intelligence and people skills.

The meeting adjourned between 3.00 and 3.35pm

## **7 Updates from Central Government Observers**

Nick Vincent provided an update from the Ministry for the Environment including that the Minister is working on Maori rights for freshwater.

## 8. **Recreation and Amenity Working Group Update**

Ben Curry advised that a recreation and amenity study was being undertaken including a review of the literature. This study will result in a high level 3-year work programme. This will be reported to the Steering Group in July and then to the Regional Committee in August.

## 9. **Infrastructure**

### **Fish Screens**

Ben Curry reported from the technical working group that the NIWA guidelines are being reviewed. Environment Canterbury is undertaking a compliance monitoring programme and is looking at how compliance is recorded against consent conditions.

### **Infrastructure Work Programme**

*Refer pages 41 to 46 of the agenda*

Dann Olykan presented this report that included a summary of the regional water infrastructure work programme.

The Infrastructure Work Programme report was received and noted by the Committee.

## 10. **BRIDGE Project – Braided Rivers**

*Refer pages 47 to 54 of the agenda*

Ian Whitehouse (Whit) presented this report on the project to determine the extent of the “river bed” in braided rivers and how to manage for the multiple values in braided river beds and their margins.

He explained that project is working with a range of people looking at four rivers, chosen as they have very different characteristics. Committee members are welcome to attend any of the meetings and site visits.

The following comments on the project were provided by the Committee:

- As well as Resource Management Act rules the CWMS vision should be included.
- It was requested that this project needs to include the co-operation and support of landowners.
- Concern regarding possible legal precedent in the use of the 50-year flood line.
- Surveys are being done on margins and strips under the Conservation Act.
- Support for doing the necessary work early.

Cr Sara Templeton joined the meeting at 3.45 pm

## 11. **Zone Committee Updates**

### **Waimakariri**

Carolyne Latham reported that the Waimakariri Zone Committee is currently involved in its Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP).

Nitrate issues in the Waimakariri River are currently being discussed for both the interzone and the intrazone. The Committee has been granted an extension to enable engagement with consent holders and the public on nitrates. The Christchurch West Melton Zone Committee joined them for a workshop to discuss the nitrate modelling.

In response to a question regarding the Environment Canterbury cultural advisor being available to the Waimakariri Zone Committee, the meeting was advised there is funding in the 2018-2018 Long Term Plan for a North Canterbury advisor but the details of the area covered are yet to be finalised.

#### **Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora**

Cr Peter Scott explained that the OTOP zone committee had a new deadline for their Zone Implementation Program Addendum (ZIPA) and was on track for input into the sub-regional plan.

#### **Lower Waitaki**

Cr Peter Scott advised that the Department of Conservation is studying bird protection on the Waitaki River, a controlled river. This work is currently being undertaken by a PHD student and the zone committee hopes to continue this work.

#### **Upper Waitaki**

Cr Peter Scott reported that the committee had received a presentation from the Mackenzie Trust and commented that the Trust appeared to have a good process to align thinking on the Mackenzie Basin.

#### **Selwyn Waihora**

Karaitiana Taiuru had no update. Les Wanhalla acknowledged the good presentation from the Department of Conservation on work currently underway in the zone.

#### **Christchurch West Melton**

Les Wanhalla advised that the zone committee wanted to improve communications with groups working in areas of shared interests.

#### **Ashburton**

Ben Curry advised that there was no news from Ashburton.

#### **Kaikoura**

Ted Howard reported that immediate steps funding for two projects had been approved.

The committee is awaiting a report from NIWA on Lyell Creek.

#### **Hurunui-Waiiau**

Mayor Winton Dalley explained that the zone committee was seeking a Plan Change to the Hurunui Waiiau River Regional Plan to address the unintended consequences of the current requirements affecting dryland farmers.

Referring to the photo on page 53 of the agenda (braided rivers project) Mayor Dalley observed the amount of gorse, broom and other plants visible in the river bed. This vegetation provided cover for predators of native birds. Other rivers are choked with willow and wattles that holds the gravel that should be moving downstream to replenish the catchment and the coast.

Mayor Dalley also raised the issue of areas where pine trees have been planted on steep slopes and suggested that advice needs to be provided to landowners about best use of the land and provide incentives for planting native species.

### **Banks Peninsula**

Fiona Nicol reported that the Banks Peninsula zone committee was working on:

- Reducing sedimentation input into Te Roto o Wairewa (Lake Forsyth). This includes bank stabilisation and providing information to landowners that are keen to work on bank planting.
- With Environment Canterbury, looking at national standards to address forest harvesting and sediment going into the Lyttelton Harbour.
- Looking at the quality of streams that provide water supply.

## **12. Facilitators Update**

*Refer pages 55 to 70 of the agenda*

Lesley Woudberg presented this report that included the final Regional Committee Annual Report for 2017.

Lesley undertook to check if biodiversity habitat as per schedule 7 (Farm Environment Plans) was to be included in the proposed Omnibus Plan Change 2019.

Information was requested on the potential pressures on hydrogeneration.

## **13. Departing Comments from the Chair**

Andy Pearce reflected on his involvement with the CWMS from the start in 2006. At the invitation of Dr Bryan Jenkins, Environment Canterbury Chief Executive, he worked with Ian Whitehouse and Grant McFadden to develop a multi-stakeholder process that led to the formation of the CWMS and the Regional Committee.

Andy thanked members of the Committee for their commitment. Progress has been made and in particular the targets report has brought the committee together.

He thanked Lesley Woudberg, Barbara Nicholas, Matt Ross and all the facilitators; the CWMS is a team effort. There is still a big task to do and he wished everyone the best.

## **14. Other Business**

Lesley advised that Peter Ramsden, Manawhenua Facilitator had retired from Environment Canterbury.

**The meeting closed at 4.32 pm, with a karakia from Karaitiana Taiuru**

**Confirmed**

Date

14/8/18

Chairperson

