

# Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee held in the Council Chamber, Canterbury Regional Council, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch on Tuesday 9 October 2018 at 1.05 pm

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## Present

<b>Community Representatives</b>	
Jane Demeter	Ross Millichamp
Vicky Southworth	
<b>Zone Representatives</b>	
Ted Howard	Kaikoura
Michele Hawke	Hurunui-Waiiau
Carolyne Latham	Waimakariri
Karaitiana Taiuru	Selwyn-Waihora
Les Wanhalla	Christchurch West-Melton
Fiona Nicol	Banks Peninsula
Ben Curry	Ashburton
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene	Upper/Lower Waitaki
<b>District Council Representatives</b>	
Mayor Winton Dalley	North Canterbury
Cr Nicole Reid	Mid Canterbury
Peter McIlraith	South Canterbury
<b>Christchurch City Council</b>	Cr Sara Templeton
<b>Te Rūnanga o Ngai Tahu</b>	Rebecca Clements
<b>Ngā Rūnanga</b>	Riki Lewis
<b>Environment Canterbury</b>	Cr Claire McKay & Peter Scott
<b>Canterbury District Health Board Observer</b>	Dr Alistair Humphrey

## **In attendance**

John Benn (Department of Conservation)

Environment Canterbury: Lesley Woudberg (Team Leader Zone Facilitator), Dann Olykan (Team Leader CWMS), Ian Brown (Principal Strategy Advisor – Land), Mel Renganathan (Principal Strategy Advisor – Land), Anita Fulton (Senior Strategy Advisor), Barbara Nicholas (Contractor) and Louise McDonald (Senior Committee Advisor)

## **Welcome**

As Chair Hugh Logan was an apology for the meeting Ross Millichamp agreed to chair the meeting.

Karaitiana Taiuru opened the meeting with a karakia.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Hugh Logan, Hugh Canard, Murray Doak and Nick Vincent

### **2 Conflicts of interest**

Ross Millichamp circulated the register of interests held for the committee for members to check and update if necessary.

### **3 Minutes of the previous meeting 14 August 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 14 August 2018, as a true and correct record.***

### **4 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **5 Farm Environment Plans & Audits**

*Refer pages 8 to 11 of the agenda*

Ian Brown presented this item with a PowerPoint presentation and tabled a paper with a selection of stories from the Farm Environment Plan (FEP) audits.

Ian said that the following questions need to continue to be asked of farmers:

- Is the FEP making a difference?

- Is it helping your farming?
- does the FEP work?
- do you have confidence in the FEP?

He noted while FEPs are important they are only part of the package.

In response to a question regarding the difference between consents that require FEPs and permitted activities (that don't require FEPs) the information required for the FEP is that same. However, with permitted activities a FEP does not require an audit.

The people that undertake audits are accredited auditors and are not Environment Canterbury compliance staff, however, if they see non-compliance they are obliged to advise Environment Canterbury.

Commenting on the rate of progress, Ian explained that progress is being made and farmer's perceptions and attitudes are changing. Rules are still needed. Some changes will require significant capital input from farmers, so time frames need to be realistic.

Attached to the agenda was a letter dated 1 October 2018 from the chair of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareroa Water Zone Committee (OTOP) regarding the committee's concern that FEPs and Farm Management Plans (FMPs) may be missing biodiversity.

There was support for the consideration of biodiversity in FEPs. Noting that biodiversity was covered by waterways management and mahinga kia provisions it was agreed to talk to OTOP to clarify if their concern is about existing or new requirements. Also, will discuss with OTOP their intensions about how biodiversity in FEPs fits in with Zone Implementation Programme Addendums (ZIPA), District Plans and regional council responsibilities.

## 6 **Canterbury Water Management Strategy Fit for Future Project**

*Refer pages 12 to 27 of the agenda*

Dann Olykan presented this item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation. He reminded the Committee that this project was not revisiting the strategic framework but was to develop interim goals and the implementation of those goals. The aim is to have challenging but achievable goals.

The following target and goal issues (pages 14 to 15 of the agenda) were considered and these comments provided:

- The cultural expressions of the targets and goals. Les Wanhalla explained that mahinga kai is about more than just food, it is also about matters including the whole ecosystem and lifestyle/economy of Papatipu Rūnanga. The goals will be discussed at the next Kaitiakitanga Task Group
- Flow regimes:
  - it was suggested that consistency was needed in the use of the various types of flow regimes e.g. 'environmental flows'.
  - should flows be prioritised?
  - the minimum flows should be set to maintain the health of the river as defined by everyone who has an interest in the river – protect the values of the river.
- Urban:
  - recognition that there are a lot of inputs into a complex system
  - targets can be aspirational but need controls to make them achievable

- noted the impact on rates of actions funded by capital (interest paid now) and operational (all expenditure paid now) budgets of territorial authorities.
- targets should be at a higher level than individual consents.
- the problem of zinc from legally installed gutters and other structures.
- **Overallocation**
  - note that the National Policy Statement on freshwater requires a planning process by 2025
  - the Resource Management Act process does not mesh with the CWMS process so there is a need for care.
  - be able to provide signals so that people can prepare
  - understand the difference between unused allocation and real usage
  - stop transfers in overallocated zones
  - the need to be agile in light of climate change
  - are allocations and minimum flows correct? what should the base levels be?

The meeting adjourned between 3.17 and 3.25 pm  
Vicky Southworth and Rebecca Clements left during this time.

The meeting then broke into groups to review the draft goals (attachment 1). This feedback was collected and will be referred to the task groups before being presented to the December meeting.

## 7 **Updates from Wellington**

*Refer pages 28 to 29 of the agenda*

The update from the Department of Conservation was attached to the agenda.

The Minister for the Environment had announced on 7 October the Government's plan for freshwater action for the next two years.

## 8. **Zone Committee Updates**

### **Kaikōura**

Ted Howard explained that the Kaikōura focus continues to be on earthquake recovery. Lyell Creek was looking good, but it would be observed during the summer.

### **Hurunui Waiau**

Michele Hawke reported that the Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee had presented its ZIPA to Environment Canterbury at its meeting of 20 September 2018. The recommendations from the Zone Committee included fixing the 10% rule that had unintended consequences for dryland farming.

The BRIDGE project is looking at the Waiau River.

Sandra Hampstead-Tipene left at 4.20pm

### **Waimakariri**

Carolyn Latham advised that the Waimakariri Zone Committee are busy with their ZIPA. They are consulting with the public and the ZIPA is due to be finished mid-November.

The Christchurch West Melton Zone Committee joined them at a meeting where nitrates were discussed.

### **Christchurch West Melton**

Les Wanhalla asked for clarification on committing Immediate Steps funding for long-term projects. The general response from other members was that long-term funding was needed to improve and secure biodiversity gains.

He reported on a successful families' day at Kerrs Reach to promote the Stormwater Superhero campaign.

### **Banks Peninsula**

Fiona Nicol reported on the 5-year action plan for the Banks Peninsula ZIPA. They are looking to formalise the current informal processes between Christchurch City Council and regional council staff so that the committee can have more input into plans and budgets.

### **Selwyn Waihora**

Karaitiana Taiuru reported that the Selwyn Waihora zone committee was building relationships and had been welcomed to Taumutu marae.

Youth representatives are attending the next zone committee meeting and will facilitate a discussion on the environment.

The zone committee have a new group working with the University of Canterbury and Environment Canterbury to improve the Selwyn River.

### **Ashburton**

Ben Curry referred to the Managed Aquifer Recharge Project (ref Ashburton Courier report on page 37 of the agenda) to the South Hinds riverbed.

### **Upper Waitaki/Lower Waitaki/ Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora**

Cr Peter Scott provided updates from these three zone committees:

- Upper Waitaki – work is being done to align the 5 agencies with statutory responsibilities in the Mackenzie Basin. A big issue in the Upper Waitaki is freedom camping.
- The Lower Waitaki zone committee is focusing on biodiversity and a field trip was being planned.
- Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora zone committee are at the final stage of the sub-regional plan. Cr Peter Skelton is going to talk to the committee about Resource Management Act (RMA) process and framework.

Michele Hawke recommended Cr Skelton's RMA talks that are available to view on YouTube.

## **9. Facilitators Update**

*Refer pages 30 to 39 of the agenda*

Lesley Woudberg presented this report and advised that the Government report released on 8 October 2018 '*Essential Freshwater: Healthy Water, Fairly Allocated*' was available on the Ministry for the Environment website.

Lesley advised the zone committee members refreshes would be before the end of 2018, with Waimakariri and the Regional Committee to be refreshed in late April/May 2019.

The proposed meeting dates for 2019 were noted.

### **Working Group Updates**

#### **Infrastructure Working Group**

Ross Millichamp reported on the fish screen review being undertaken by the Environment Canterbury.

#### **Recreation and Amenity Working Group**

Ben Curry explained that the literature review of documents has been completed and is being synthesised. It will be used to assist Environment Canterbury planning staff.

#### **Biodiversity, Ecosystem Health and Braided Rivers**

Jane Demeter requested a copy of the Regional Braided River Project presentation.

### 10. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

### 11. **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 11 December 2018

**The meeting closed at 4.53 pm, with a karakia from Karaitiana Taiuru**

**Confirmed**

**Date**

11/12/18

**Chairperson**

