

**MINUTES OF THE KAIKŌURA ZONE WATER COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD AT 12.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 3 JULY 2019  
AT  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 96 WEST END, KAIKŌURA.**

**PRESENT:** T Howard (Chair), J Murray, N McArthur, T Blunt, R Roche, A Boyd, T Sonal, G Solomon, C McConchie, Councillor S Lowndes

**IN ATTENDANCE:** K Heays, H Melville, M Griffin, S Bragg, S Bowman, (ECan)

**APOLOGIES:** C Harnett

***Moved by A Boyd, seconded by J Murray and resolved that apologies be accepted.***

**KARAKIA** – Stephen Bragg

T Howard welcomed C McConchie as a Kaikōura Rūnanga representative to the zone committee.

**1. COMMITTEE CHECK-IN & ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- J Murray raised his concern of rocks being taken out of the Clarence.
- T Howard attended the BRaid conference in Christchurch 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019. At the Regional Committee meeting on 11 June 2019 climate change was discussed re the difficulties of the complexity present and the tendency of people to do what they know how to do, rather than actually produce outcomes that work in reality.
- T Blunt commented that farmers have had a very good season. With his Council hat on, he reported that earthquake recovery projects are going well and the annual plan is completed.

**URGENT BUSINESS**

No urgent business.

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

*Corrections*

- a) *Present*  
R Roche – inadvertently not shown as present at this meeting.
- b) *Part 5 Waiau Toa/Clarence Predator Control Update*, bullet point 11 'Black-back gulls are a major predator and if they could be eradicated this would save a lot of species' – to be changed to controlled.
- c) *Closing* – Karakahia spelt incorrectly – should be Karakia.

***Moved by J Murray, seconded N McArthur and resolved that the minutes of the Kaikōura Zone Water Committee meeting held on 05 June 2019 be confirmed a true and accurate record.***

**TE REO PRACTICE**

Led by G Solomon.

## 2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK

There were no public in attendance at this meeting.

## 3. IMMEDIATE STEPS FUNDING – UPDATE

H Melville/K Heays

- Next 6-months a transitional period
- Amounts not changing, just the distribution
- Protecting what we have and controlling of weeds a priority
- Immediate Steps funding focusing on biodiversity priorities and a more efficient process
- Criteria specified include projects which:
  - have long term protection (i.e. QEII covenants)
  - link in with or support existing projects
  - have high visibility and are accessible to the public

Projects noted:

- Hartnett's Creek protection – Kanuka Terrace (Wood Grove)
- Funding supporting deer fencing, weed control, and trapping
- H Melville will keep the Zone Committee informed, open to feedback and suggestions
- H Melville clarified a change in the allocation of \$5,500 of Immediate Steps funding across the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years.

*G Solomon* stated the parameters for Immediate Steps funding are too narrow.

*T Sonal* commented there should be more of weeding/replanting/predator control rather than spraying/helicopter and the \$50,000 should be spent in these areas. Wetlands also an important area.

*T Howard* – proactive in planting for the next 5 years and this programme should be maintained for the next 2-3 decades. It is a long-term effort.

*K Heays* – Immediate Steps funding/projects goes via the zone committee and to be transparent. FEP plans – dairy farmers targeted first, secondly irrigators and lastly sheep and beef farmers. This has been impacted by the Kaikōura earthquake and timing requirements are different compared to other zones.

*S Lowndes* – \$100K granted in lieu of sub regional doesn't fit into Immediate Steps.

*R Roche* – Frost's Farm has successfully worked in the biodiversity area for a long period and suggested the zone committee to visit on site.

*T Sonal* – suggested approaching farmers who are lagging behind to address fencing on their farms.

***Moved by T Howard, seconded R Roche***

## RECOMMENDATION

That the zone committee receive this update for its information and priority setting for biodiversity projects and funding in the 2019/2020.

***Moved by T Howard, seconded T Sonal***

#### **4. BIODIVERSITY ACTIONS – WHAT'S HAPPENING?**

H Melville

- Hapuku Wetlands – the contractors have done a good job, and this is the last financial year for this project.
- Nagari wetlands planting day was very successful and good to have the community involved. This is a real tool for engagement.
- Overland flow path remediation – Kaikōura flats.
- ECan funding to carry on for this financial year and to prioritise:
  - Lyell catchment
  - High nutrient (dairy) catchments
- K Heays – wetland areas very topical, work to incorporate fencing off and planting. Scope farm by farm.
- Lower Lyell/Waikōau area has a connection to the community and Hamish presented an early stage draft plan of the proposal. An asset for the community and visitors and to show off the significance of the site.
- Fonterra 50 catchments – first funding to ECan next month which is for the North Canterbury area. Funding \$60K for each year over the next 3 years to be divided.

*N McArthur* – mentioned the awards for the the most improved river in New Zealand for 2020 suggesting an application be sent in for the Lyell.

*S Lowndes* – confirmed \$20K funding from DOC to spend on wilding pines.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the committee receive this update for its information and with regard to the committee's 5-year outcomes and 2019/2020 work programme.

***Moved by R Roche, seconded S Lowndes***

**2:15pm** Afternoon Tea

#### **5. 2019/2020 WORK PROGRAMME**

M Griffin presented an A3 paper containing the 2019 work programme.

##### **7<sup>th</sup> August**

- Scientist to attend meeting to speak on the nitrate probe proposal (T Blunt). Murray meeting with members of the ECan Science Team this coming Monday on this issue
- Longer game plan
- Identify gaps and what is currently being monitored
- Relationship to the Kaikoura Plains Recovery Project is another consideration
- Scrub monitoring

##### **4<sup>th</sup> September**

- Continue discussion on nitrate probe proposal

- Comms plan September/October
- NCTIR and the transport corridor – R Roche offered to organise a presenter. T Sonal mentioned the untreated water from the roads to the rivers and this to be included in the presentation. The topic of oil spills and brake fluid on road was also mentioned.
- G Solomon observed when driving one day of effluent on the road, but the committee advised this is not a transport issue but to ring 555.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> October**

- Local Government elections in October 2019, Kaikōura zone committee meeting would be held prior to the elections on 2 October, so can proceed.
- ECan Science monitoring review discussion continued.
- Youth – what they would like/value for freshwater. Consider the EnviroSchools approach as one approach for schools in the local area. Kevin and Heath to pull together.

### **6<sup>th</sup> November**

- Field trip to Harnett's

### **4<sup>th</sup> December**

- M Bell, Wild Life Management, Waiau Toa/Clarence

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the committee confirm its work programme priorities for the remainder of 2019.

***Moved by S Lowndes, seconded N McArthur***

## **6. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- 1) T Howard gave a short update on the Regional meeting held at Tuam Street on the 11<sup>th</sup> June. His summary paper was circulated to members separately to the agenda. Next regional meeting 13 August 2019.
- 2) N McArthur – raised the following considerations regarding climate change:
  - reduce plastic and fossil fuels
  - source alternative fuels
  - batteries for future use – technology research for one's kinder to the environment
  - encourage conservation

S Lowndes – climate change:

  - reduce carbon emissions
  - reducing plastic use
  - worrying melting of ice at South and North poles
  - ECan's recent declaration of a climate change emergency
- 3) K Heays mentioned the Nagari planting day a great success. Acknowledged that the zone committee be advised of projects of significance and to be visible.

4) Nitrate probe covered previously in minutes.

5) Mataitai – was not discussed

6) Three Waters – covered off in the agenda

R Roche commented that the zone committee hadn't received water quality reports for a while and M Griffin will follow up on this.

T Blunt made the suggestion that the Kaikōura Plains Recovery Project Governance Group be invited to attend the August meeting for the presentation by the ECan Science Team on nitrogen/nitrate/E.coli and the overall programme of monitoring. He added having twenty years of data helps give a good picture of change in a catchment, or on the plains.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the zone committee receive these updates for their information, and with reference to the committee's 2019 work programme and 5-year outcomes

***Moved by N McArthur, seconded R Roche***

**Closing karakia – S Bragg**

***There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.45pm.***