



MINUTES

Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting

17 February 2021

**MINUTES OF WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL
LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE WAIMATE EVENT CENTRE, 15 PAUL STREET, WAIMATE
ON WEDNESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2021, COMMENCING AT 1.00PM**

- PRESENT:** Chair Bruce Murphy, Deputy Chairperson Jared Ross, Waihao Rūnaka Representative Suzanne Eddington, Waitaki Cr Jim Hopkins, Community Member Daniel Isbister, Community Member Brent Packman, Community Member Kate White; Community Member Jared Ross
- APOLOGIES:** Waimate Cr Fabia Fox, Community Member Barney Hoskins, Arowhenua Rūnaka Representative Michael Mcmillan, ECan Cr Nicole Marshall, Moeraki Rūnaka Representative Keiran Whyte
Brad Waldon-Gibbons (Tangata Whenua Facilitator), Peter Burt (Zone Committee Lead)
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Dave Moore (Zone Facilitator)

OPENING

The opening karakia was performed by Dave Moore. Chair Bruce Murphy welcomed members to the meeting.

1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2021/1

Moved: Bruce Murphy
Seconded: Suzanne Eddington

That apologies from Michael Mcmillan, Keiran Whyte, Cr Fabia Fox, Barney Hoskins and Cr Nicole Marshall be received and accepted.

CARRIED

2 VISITORS

Jen Fellows (Waitaki Irrigators Collective), John Benn (DOC), Fraser Walker-Pearce (ECan Comms), Mira Tripathi (Water and Waste Technical Support Officer Waimate District Council)

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

See below.

MINUTES

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 DECEMBER 2020

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2021/2

Moved: Bruce Murphy

Seconded: Kate White

That the Minutes of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting held on 16 December 2020 be adopted as a true and correct record, with minor wording amendments below.

CARRIED

Amendments:

Pg 10, Item 5.4, paragraph 3 'some members of the committee highlighted frustration **with** the purpose of the Lower Waitaki Zone Committee)

Pg 11 Item 5.4, paragraph 2 'The Zone Committee agreed their workshop in 2021 would be used to **develop** an action plan,)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Resolution 5.8 – That the Lower Waitaki Zone Committee requests Environment Canterbury to undertake an urgent rating review of the Lower Waitaki Rating District, as previously agreed, and also prepare a revised Terms of Reference for the Waitaki River Rating Liaison Group that includes delegated responsibility to produce a proposed draft Terms of Reference with involvement from relevant stakeholders including Waitaki Irrigators Collective and Meridian Energy.

Completed – a letter has been written and sent to the appropriate parties within Environment Canterbury. Dave Moore to circulate the letter to the Zone Committee. Action: Facilitator to circulate letter

Bruce has also spoken to Mayor Rowley. The Mayor will be taking the issue to the Council in the next two weeks.

Resolution 5.4 – That the Lower Waitaki Zone Committee delegates Peter Burt, Dave More and Sue Eddington the responsibility for preparing an application to the MFE Freshwater Improvement Fund on behalf of the Lower Waitaki Zone Committee to extend the role of OTOP's catchment coordinator to include the Lower Waitaki Zone

Not progressing - Dave Moore investigated the criteria for Freshwater Improvement Fund and unfortunately the Zone Committee's bid did not meet the criteria for the funding. It is not an incorporated society; and the funding minimum is \$200,000; also expressions of interest have now closed.

Bruce Murphy attended a meeting of the South Canterbury Catchment and reported back that the group is in the process of setting up an incorporated society and has submitted three applications to the Ministry for the Environment Fund. Noted that current Lower Waitaki catchment groups may be able to become members apply to the South Canterbury Catchment Collective for funding in the future. They have also submitted an application into DOC's Jobs for Nature fund.

REPORTS

TE REO WORDS

The Zone Committee noted and accepted the Te Reo words.
Mātauranga Māori suggested for the next meeting.

5 GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS REGISTER

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2021/3

Moved: Cr Jim Hopkins
Seconded: Brent Packman

That the Declarations of Interests Register report be accepted.

CARRIED

5.2 FACILITATORS UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2021

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2021/4

Moved: Kate White
Seconded: Suzanne Eddington

That the Zone Committee receive the update.

CARRIED

Notes:

The Zone Committee agreed to delay the Election of Officers (Chair, Deputy Chair, and Regional Council representative) until the Committee Member Refresh process has occurred. Up to five members positions will be refreshing. Current members were encouraged to reach out to potential new members.

Postponement of Zone Committee Chair and Deputy Chair meeting, and a new date to be confirmed.

5.3 WAITAKI RIVER EROSION UPDATE

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2021/5

Moved: Waitaki Cr Jim Hopkins
Seconded: Community Member Brent Packman

That the Waitaki River Erosion presentation from Gert van't Klooster is accepted.

CARRIED

Notes:

The use of COVID 19 funds has meant delays in works being completed due to more complex processes. Approval for spray work to commence has not yet been given and the window to spray plants before they die back for the Autumn/Winter period is closing.

Questions were raised about the works in the river being completed before the next flushing flow is released as part of Meridians consent requirements. Whether the flushing may have a positive or negative affect on the works, and whether flushing should be allowed to be delayed allowing the works in the river to be completed.

Discussion on the appropriate mechanism to ensure a river rating review is completed. The Zone Committee was unsure whether this sat within Environment Canterbury's long-term plan or as a separate legal process.

Bruce has made initial contact with Environment Canterbury to encourage a collaboration with Department of Conservation when they develop the Project River Recovery Strategy for the Waitaki River. To also include Lower Waitaki River Rating Liaison Group.

Jen raised a question from Brad Edwards (DOC) whether the Zone Committee is mandated to work within alpine rivers. This was confirmed and reinforced by the ZIP.

Action: Seek clarification from Environment Canterbury as to when spraying is planned to be completed and to recommend the spraying is completed before the season ends.

Action: Follow up on the appropriateness of the flushing flows in the Waitaki River and whether works to prevent erosion of the banks would be positively or adversely affected if the flushing continues as per consent requirements.

Action: Follow up with Environment Canterbury on whether a rating review is being considered for the Waitaki river and whether this is separate process to the Long Term Plan?

5.4 CONSIDERATION OF IMMEDIATE STEPS PROJECTS

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2021/6

Moved: Cr Jim Hopkins

Seconded: Suzanne Eddington

That the Zone Committee recommends proceeding with the Immediate Steps project as outlined in the Immediate Steps Project Report

CARRIED

Notes:

Observation from Kennedy Lange that there are significant improvements to the upper reaches of the Hakataramea following previous willow control. Tree lupins are now becoming a large concern in the riverbeds. The Catchment Group based in the area is taking more strategic approach to river management and working alongside Environment Canterbury.

Te mana o te wai communications/signage – has seen delays as trying to link in with Waimate District Council's communications plan.

Two new projects presented – Fletchers and Buchannan's Streams. Areas dominated by crack willow with remnant native undergrowth. Proposed aerial and ground control.

5.4 RESOURCE SUPPORT FOR CATCHMENT GROUPS

Chris Batstone requested either direct funding support or support for the group to apply for funding for a facilitator or coordinator. The Zone Committee conveyed their support however

have no budget to be able to offer financial assistance. Zone Committee are willing to write a letter of support when the group requests funding.

Action: Chris Batstone to work with Dave Moore and Bruce Murphy to develop a report illustrating what support might look like from the Zone Committee and how the Catchment Group can link in with the Zone Committee and most effectively support their request for assistance. The report is to be presented at the next Zone Committee meeting.

Action: Chris Batstone, Dave Moore and Bruce Murphy to produce a letter of support for Waihao Wainono Catchment Community Group's work and their funding application.

MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chair closed the 2.45pm.

The Minutes of this meeting are to be confirmed at the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting scheduled on Wednesday 17 March 2021 .

.....
CHAIRPERSON