



# MINUTES

## Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting

09 August 2023

**MINUTES OF WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT KNOX CHURCH, 58 SHEARMAN STREET, WAIMATE 7979  
ON WEDNESDAY 09 AUGUST 2023, COMMENCING AT 1:00PM**

**PRESENT:** Arowhenua Runaka (Chair) Michael Mcmillan, Cr Environment Canterbury  
David East, Community Member Bruce Murphy Deputy Chair Jakki Guilford, Cr  
Waimate District Council Sharyn Cain, Cr Waitaki District Council Jim Hopkins,  
Waihao Runaka Suzanne Eddington, Community Member Jen Fellowes,  
Community Member Brent Packman, Community Member Jonnie Rutherford

**APOLOGIES:** Fraser McKenzie, Victoria Magazinovic

**IN ATTENDANCE:** ECan: Dave Moore (Facilitator), Peter Burt (Southern Zone Lead), Andrew  
Oliver (Facilitator OTOP/Upper Waitaki Zone Committees), Martin Espig  
(Principle Strategy Advisor, CWMS)  
DoC: John Benn

## **OPENING**

### **WELCOME & KARAKIA**

Michael McMillan opened the meeting with a karakia.

## **APOLOGIES**

### **APOLOGY**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Bruce Murphy

Seconded: Suzanne Eddington

That apologies from Fraser McKenzie and Victoria Magazinovic be received and accepted.

**CARRIED**

## **1 VISITORS**

John Benn, Peter Burt, Andrew Oliver, Martin Espig, Jessica Halsey, Lee Matheson

## **2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil

### 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 4.1 MINUTES OF THE LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 2023 (April – minutes from May still to come)

##### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/28

Moved: Sharyn Cain

Seconded: Jonnie Rutherford

That the Minutes of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting held on 12 April 2023 be adopted as a true and correct record, with the below amendment.

**CARRIED**

##### Amendments:

Insert the word “interim” i.e. “Action: Facilitator to contact Trudy Heath, interim Chair, Te Rūnanga o Waihao”.

### REPORTS

#### 4 GENERAL BUSINESS

##### 5.1 CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

##### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

No correspondence.

##### 5.1 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS REGISTER

That the Declaration of Interest Register report be accepted, and any amendments or additions noted.

Suzanne Eddington owner of land at Waihao.

Frazer McKenzie is no longer the Independent Chairman of Waitaki Irrigators Collective.

##### 5.2 TE REO WORDS As presented.

Michael noted the reo is pretty basic – **manu, rakau, ngahere**.

Jen Fellowes asked Michael to run through the pronunciation and Jonnie Rutherford asked for clarification of singular v plural.

### 5.3 WAI CONNECTION UPDATE

Jessica Halsey presented the wai connection and her role as regional coordinator and engagement services officer based in Christchurch. Funded by MfE in turn funded by jobs for nature – current funding runs to June 2025.

Aim: tailored support to catchment group issues: knowledge, tools and expert support.

National v regional support. National backed by mountains to sea conservation trust and EOS. EOS technical and science support.

Cr Hopkins asked what the letters EOS stand for – Erin and Shelley (founders of the company)!

12 regions nationally have partner organizations with associated support people. North, mid & south coordinators – 15 catchment groups supported in Canterbury.

Jessica summarized the EOS engagement programme i.e. science + engagement. This was followed by the catchment selective pathway i.e. regional hui; regional needs assessment; signed off by MfE.

The wai-connection will offer:

- A summary of resources, govt docs et al available online along with map-based summary of each catchment.
- Science expertise
- Real support from real people (regional manager / community connections / catchment coordinators / FWP's/ support finding funding / NZLT support.

Cr Hopkins asked if Waitaki District Council is included in regional hui? Jessica noted that EOS are in planning phase in this space. Cr Hopkins will pass on the appropriate contact.

Bruce Murphy asked what reception was received from irrigation schemes? Jessica: catchment groups are specific to awa – schemes being larger than an awa. This project specifically aimed at the rural community.

**Action:** Facilitator to send Jessica the link to 'Know your Catchment'

Bruce Murphy noted duplication of aims and resources and queried if OTOP had a similar view. Cr Cain noted they did when presented with the same EOS presentation. Suzanne noted EOS is a private business, Jess noted that part of their brief is to facilitate funding for catchment groups.

Cr Cain felt that there is a justifiable purpose for EOS to be in the space to support local catchment groups, whilst at the same time noting the frustration of duplication.

Jakki Guilford noted that the committee has struggled to find coordination support for catchment groups – hence noting that EOS can be a benefit.

**Action:** Dave to email out EOS slides.

Jakki Guilford asked if there is scope for new groups to be in the scheme – Jessica noted that groups who are 'in formation' will be.

Cr Cain noted that CWMS committees are the go-to resource to approach in this space.

Jen Fellowes wanted clarification around where EOS sits in support of catchment groups. Jess noted it was not about duplication.

Michael McMillan asked if funds are available for other groups aside for catchment Groups – Jessica said yes with the exception of urban groups.

## COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Hopkins

Seconded: Jakki Guilford

That the Zone Committee receive the report

**CARRIED**

## 5.4 OUR LAND AND WATER CATCHMENT SYNTHESIS PROJECT

Lee Matheson, Managing Director, Perrin Ag

Our land and water science challenge has commissioned Perrin Ag to focus on how we transform and deliver.

Focused on how we potentially transform and adapt our farming systems to deliver the water quality outcomes.

How landscapes change with use to achieve water targets. Looking at a variety of indicators to achieve efficient sustainable use of water that gives good economic and environmental outcomes. Mitigation to factor in farmer, community aims with key boundaries e.g looking at outcomes with no trees. Lee's work aims to validate water quality outcomes with the constraints that the community desires – and will the model agree with it. Lee noting in Rotorua he's working with implementing 20% decreases in N, meaning farms will look different over time.

*30 – 50 farmers needed across the Plan Change 3 sub catchments for telephone interviews of 20 – 25 minutes. Farmers paid for their time – with online survey, also paid. Mid – Oct 5-6 farmers required for case studies – all anonymous. For case study farmers, they will receive in depth reports. Lee noting the importance of future focus through farmer engagement. Individual responses will remain private, however over all learnings & insights will be made public. 15 September is when model inputs need to be identified.*

Michael suggested that Lee's information be given out to potential participants rather than the committee giving contact info to Lee.

Jen: asked clarification on the model: Lee – once the model is set up it will exist to be reused for catchments and to input different outcomes, scenarios, outcomes.

Bruce: Noted we're the third least productive in the OECD and asked about productivity gains: Lee – could consider productivity gain as a mitigation, looks at an intergenerational outcome.

Pete: Clarified that this is work that regional councils would appreciate. What's the incentive to change? Lee – knowing is better than not knowing- and being able to contribute to owning the outcomes.

Cr East: Has concerns around the word 'modeling' ... wants to see honesty about being upfront about assumptions, applicability of data and margins of error as it may apply to our district that gives a credible result. Lee: results will be validated with farmers.

Cr Jim: Can Lee challenge the national bottom lines based on (the report tabled) – eluding that the NPS is leading us to a lower standard of living. Lee: if the model suggests that the model results in outcomes that are untenable – this then is a finding of the research, which could be used by other organisations, such as the regional council to run further modelling.

Bruce: What is the target audience? Lee: Govt - National Science Challenge – so Minister of

Science.

Cr Cain: Can questions be sent out in advance? This as a means of mitigating the sense of ill-will 'out there'. Lee to send via the Facilitator to distribute to committee.

Need inputs to the model by Sept 15 – He requests that organisations contact their members to see if they are willing to be part of the survey and if so to contact Perrin Ag/Lee.

The committee would welcome Lee to report back at a later date.

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Councillor Hopkins

Seconded: Bruce Murphy

That the Zone Committee receive the report and members help to disseminate information to the farming community in the Plan Change 3 area.

**CARRIED**

## **5.5 ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY ZONE DELIVERY UPDATE**

### **Peter Burt Zone Lead Environment Canterbury**

Peter gave an overview as per report – essentially BAU.

Compliance based on consent conditions.

A compliance officer dual role with Waimate District Council Dual and ECan works well. This person is the first cab off the rank for any pollution events in the zone.

Peter outlined the key compliance issues, high priority consents.

There is one Land Management Advisor in the zone— hence focus and prioritization is essential. Land management advice activities such as the focus on the Northern Fan / Waihao drinking water, intensive winter grazing, weed control in the Hakataramea Valley, and support for catchment groups.

Bruce: FWFP – how does this sit with RPS? Pete: education and engagement over the planning phase.

Bruce noted no tangible guidance from ECAN with regards FMU's – esp given the size and impact of MGI in this zone. Jakki noted the committee as community reps should take leadership in this space – engaging with the community asking how can the committee support them in this space.

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Bruce Murphy

Seconded: Jakki Guilford

That the Zone Committee receive the report

**CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Councillor Hopkins

Seconded: Jonnie Rutherford

That the Lower Waitaki Zone Committee requests ECan to consider a public information campaign to inform communities more fully of the implications of the new freshwater consenting process.

**CARRIED**

**5.6 CONFIRMATION OF ACTION PLAN AMENDMENTS**

Dave Moore presented his report.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Councillor Hopkins

Seconded: Jakki Gilford

That the Zone Committee receives the report and approves the amendments to the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Water Zone Committee Action Plan with minor stylistic changes (present participles).

**CARRIED**

**5.7 COUNCILLORS UPDATES**

Cr East – Environment Canterbury

Annual Plan now approved, starting on the Long-Term Plan process.

Local Government AGM held in Christchurch recently.

Wallaby Control & Wilding Pines – drone technology being used to address this issue.

Coastal issues south of Banks Peninsula – options being discussed around coastal erosion and managed retreat. Discussions around critical infrastructure – what is and what isn't.

Cr Cain – Waimate District Council

Signage boards now in place on the Waihao walkway.

Birds on the Wainono Lagoon discussed – black swans & geese a tentative issue.

Denitrification Plant discussed – expensive to run, better to deal with the cause and run only the plant only when necessary.

Reform ongoing – RMA / 3-waters etc.

Cr Hopkins – Waitaki District Council

Cr Hopkins noted rising sea levels in the Waitaki. LTP issues around excluding 3 waters. Working on the Long-Term Plan.

Bruce Murphy: Concerns over comms staff being employed over the likes of LMA's – committee wanting more staff on the ground for education & engagement. Councillor East to pass this concern on internally.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Jen Fellowes  
Seconded: Jakki Guilford

That the Zone Committee receive the report

**CARRIED**

**5.7.1 Te Puna a Maru Funding Report**

The facilitator tabled the Te Puna a Maru Funding Report from Whiria te Waitaki regarding the Action Plan fund for plant guards.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION**

Moved: Jakki Guilford  
Seconded: Suzanne Eddington

That the Zone Committee receive the report.

**CARRIED**

**5.8 COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Facilitator requested committee feedback on te tiriti training – where and when. Jonnie suggested Waihao Marae.

OTOP used as a template for media pulses – committee agreed this is great idea for this zone too.

Jakki suggested a shortened meeting next time coupled with a workshop. Wainono catchment focus. Keen to hear from catchment groups

Sue asked about glossary – can we have one. Dave explained that we will use one being developed for OTO as a base for this committee.

Next meeting 13 Sept. at Waihao Marae. Short meeting followed by workshop on Wainono. Invite Wainono Wainono Catchment Community Group. Liaise with Te Rūnanga o Waihao re participation.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2022/30**

Moved: Jakki Guilford  
Seconded: Suzanne Eddington

That the Zone Committee receive the report

**CARRIED**

**MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 16:03.

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**CHAIRPERSON**