

Minutes: Hikurangi Swamp Working Group Meeting Tuesday 21st July 2015, held at Jordan Valley Farm

Minutes of meeting held at the Jordan Valley Farm on Tuesday 21st July 2015

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| Facilitator | Councillor Crichton Christie |
| Purpose | Forum to discuss the Hikurangi Swamp Scheme Issues |
| Present | Cr Crichton Christie (facilitator), Andrew Carvell (WDC), Adam Twose (WDC), Jack Ilich, Rosemary Lister, Ray Hindrup, Simon Donelley, Evan Smeath(end), Jeannie Pontai, Jen Ashby |
| Apologies | Simon Weston, Alan Halliday, Andrew Ilich, Bruce Howse, Tess Dacre, Tim Brandenburg |

Councillor Christie addressed the floor, opened the meeting welcoming members and staff representatives from the Whangarei District Council.

| Item | Description | Action |
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| Apologies | Accepted | Moved/Second |
| Minutes | Last Meeting Minutes. Issues raised - Drain clearing in the mountain pocket. - Stopbank at Tanekaha. - Te Mata work with contractor. Issues discussed later in the meeting. | Moved/Second |
| Operations/Maintenance | <u>Monthly Overview from Hydrotech</u> April - Settled weather with little rainfall. - 25ml rain over Anzac, stopbank work completed. - Okarika Tomo investigation completed. May - Couple of stormy periods raising levels but with no flooding. - Pump station isolated but closely monitored during rain to reduce eel fatalities. - Second ox-bow at Okarika planted. - Ray raised the issue that the most efficient pumping is on the rise of the river and fall of the river. Need to get the timing of the pumping right. - Note that HydroTech is on 24 hour standby. June - Drier than average month. - Minor river rises during rainfall events but no flooding. - Pump stations operated but only for a short duration. | Rosemary/Adam |

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| | <p>Pump Station Maintenance</p> <p>Pump Availability over April, May & June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100% pump availability. - Spare pump available. - Pump E at Okarika is switched out but available as a spare. <p>Power Usage and Pump Hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Due to drier than average months power usage is down. - Pumps didn't run during April. - Only Te Mata pumps ran during May. 45 hours pump A & 4 hours pump B. - During June all pumps at Junction, Te Mata, Tanekaha, Mountain and Otonga ran. Ngararatonua and Okarika not run. <p>Otonga Power Station - Concrete Degradation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Handrail had become a Health & Safety issue. - Concrete and supports broken. - Repairs made to handrail and fresh concrete laid. - Winch replaced and remounted. | |
| <p>Finances</p> | <p>April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspection \$2,638.22. - Maintenance \$360.81. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Okarika Pump E removal and installation of spare. - Drain Clearing \$695.00. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pine removal from Mangawhero Stream. <p>May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspection \$3,297.78. - Maintenance \$458.59. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Rubbish disposal charges, rat bait & Otonga Pump Station contractor replacement (temporary switched out for permanent). - Drain Clearing \$1,870.37. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pine removal from Mangawhero Stream. <p>June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspection \$2,638.22. - Maintenance \$9,551.92 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Investigate and replace damaged electric fence at Okarika Pump Station. o Mow Spillways. o Replace missing chain on handrails. o Replace main switch following phase fault at Otonga Pump Station. - Flood Attendance \$558.21. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Five separate visits followed by weed clearing. - Drain Clearing \$2,847.25. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Excavate Bell Drain (1220m) <p>Opex 14/15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under Budget at YTD point. - YTD \$431,835 and Budget is \$481,956. <p>Opex 15/16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In long term plan process. - Budget is \$481,956. | |

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| <p>Environmental</p> | <p><u>Ox-Bow Restorations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work has now been completed on second ox-bow restoration. - Area fenced off by lease holder. - WDC have sprayed willow. - CBEC to do the replanting. - Bund constructed and water level has risen. - 3000 plants currently planted. - Small reduction of lease area resulting in renegotiation of licence. - Working with Fish & Game to fence off and eradicate weeds from WDC land (1.2 to 2 ha) adjacent to Wairua Reserve. - 0.8ha of land is crown. - Initial cost is of 50/50 split with Fish & Game with Fish & Game responsible for upkeep of land thereafter in return for access to their users. <p><u>Otakairangi Wetland</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DoC indicated wetland level has dropped, associated with drain. - WDC to discuss with DoC / Living Water how this is to be addressed. <p><u>Living Waters Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15/16 Business planning well underway with approval by mid August. - Three year strategy and annual plan draft going to Steering Committee for feedback and approval w/e 24th July. - Mangaharuru Update, contouring stream bank to create two tiered profile as recommended, Fiona Gordon at DoC is working towards consent. Signs from NRC are positive. - Steve Brown's fencing and planting is complete and worth a look, will improve with plant growth in a years time. | |
| <p>Economic</p> | <p><u>Economic Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultant to collect cost of floods. - Looking at funding options with NRC and Fonterra. - Ongoing. | <p>Adam</p> |
| <p>Future Objectives</p> | <p><u>Short Term Objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resource consent terms met, flood monitoring can now begin. - Note that stopbank adjustments only cost \$267k which has allowed for the remaining works to be completed and savings to be made. - Saving of \$70,000 against estimated cost to carry over. - Three perpendicular stopbanks removed, aerial survey required. - \$20,000 assigned to address Berm Land tree issue. Suggested use to immediate south west of Otonga Power Station. Adam to bring costs for this to the next meeting. - Trade off of ox-bow from Berm Land with private land to aid smooth flow and maintenance of environmental balance planned for this year. - Andrew and Adam to lock down date which scheme becomes debt free by next meeting in October. <p><u>Medium Term Objectives (1 – 5 years)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spillway monitoring completed, assess date from next five compatible flood events. - Encourage reporting from farmers, preferably with pictures, where stopbanks overtop and assess data from next five compatible flood events. - Funds assigned within \$20,000 Berm Land monies to get scheme running as originally intended. To determine where to spend the \$20,000. <p><u>Long term Objectives (5+ years)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic analysis data currently being collected for feasibility study. - Possible change in land use, increase flood protection and obtain Hydrologists interpretation of future hydrographs. | <p>Adam</p> <p>Adam/Andrew</p> |

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| AOB | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adam suggested money to be allocated to provide refreshments for meetings instead of one person providing each time.- Cr. Christie addressed the issue of settlement of the swamp as this is a serious issue for the integrity of the scheme.- Solutions need to be considered, as land is moving towards the same level as the drains.- Evan Smeath raised an issue of unpaid rates and where are the 10 questions? Andrew Carvell is to action this. | Cr. Christie Andrew |
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Meeting closed at 11:11am

Next Meeting: Mid-October (Cr. Christie requests a date which will not clash with council meeting)