

## Minutes: Hikurangi Swamp Working Group Meeting Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016, held at Jordan Valley Farm

*Minutes of meeting held at the Jordan Valley Farm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016*

<b>Facilitator</b>	Adam Twose
<b>Purpose</b>	Forum to discuss the Hikurangi Swamp Scheme Issues
<b>Present</b>	Adam Twose (WDC), Mellissa Twose (Scribe), Ray Hindrup, Rosemary Lister, Ken Finlayson, Simon Donelley, Tess Dacre (NRC), Geoff Crawford (arrived late and left early, Stephen Brown, Evan Smeath.
<b>Apologies</b>	Cr Crichton Christie, Andrew Carvell (WDC), Simon Weston (WDC), Bruce Howse, Tim Brandenburg, Penny Johnston

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

Item	Description	Action
<b>Apologies</b>	Accepted	Moved/Second
<b>Minutes</b>	Last Meeting Minutes. Issues raised - None. All true and correct.	Moved/Second
<b>Pocket Representation</b>	Request made for names of persons to represent Tanekaha Pocket. Kelly Ludlow & Barry Thorne suggested.	Adam Twose to contact Kerry & Barry
<b>Operations/Maintenance</b>	<p><b><u>Monthly Overview from Hydrotech</u></b></p> <p>January - Fairly dry month with only 3-4 day rain event</p> <p>February - Mostly a wet month. - Concrete repairs were undertaken on Ngararatunua during dry spell - Soda blocks removals on Maruarua Stream - Mid month storm saw most of the pump stations operating</p> <p>March - Quite a wet month saw two storms, one of which missed the Hikurangi catchment</p> <p>April - Mainly settled weather with a couple of rain events causing a number of pumps to operate - Lambert Drain's flood gate damage during operation against high river</p> <p>May - Dry with only a couple of rainfall events - Safe operator pads installed at pump stations</p> <p><b><u>Pump Availability</u></b> - See presentation</p> <p><b><u>Power Usage</u></b> - See Presentation</p> <p><b><u>Pump Operation</u></b> - See Presentation</p>	

	<p><b><u>Maintenance Activities</u></b>                  Bermland Spraying Completed                  -                  Maruarua Stream Rapids Removal Completed                  -                  Jacks Swale Completed                  -                  Tanekaha Weed Screen Completed                  -                  Weed Screen Clearing Excavator Pads Completed</p>	<p>Ngararatunua pocket                  reps to report back in                  summer if all rapids                  removed to their                  satisfaction</p>
<p><b>Finances</b></p>	<p><b><u>January</u></b>                  - Inspection \$2,638.24                  - Maintenance \$10,516.19                  - Drain Clearing \$0</p> <p><b><u>February</u></b>                  - Inspection \$2,638.22                  - Maintenance \$10,886.30                  - Drain Clearing \$35,598.95</p> <p><b><u>March</u></b>                  - Inspection \$3,379.52                  - Maintenance \$18,009.14                  - Drain Clearing \$59,037.08</p> <p><b><u>April</u></b>                  - Inspection \$2,727.60                  - Maintenance \$2,821.88                  - Drain Clearing \$1,296.56</p> <p><b><u>May</u></b>                  - Inspection \$2,727.60                  - Maintenance \$7,104.71                  - Drain Clearing \$0</p> <p><b><u>Opex 15/16</u></b>                  - Budget is \$481,956                  - Current Forecast is \$334,943, but actual spend likely to be \$300k based on recent dry weather                  - Long term plan to be out of debt by 2025, which large storms and equipment malfunctions aside we are presently on course for</p> <p><b><u>Opex 16/17</u></b>                  - Budget is \$513,969                  - Drain clearing budget is \$102,000</p>	
<p><b>Drain Clearing Discussion</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some areas just require spraying not clearing</li> <li>- Spraying to take place twice a year, to discuss at next meeting</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Environmental</b></p>	<p><b><u>NIWA Eel Monitoring Study</u></b>                  - NIWA installed monitoring equipment, electric fish barrier and released 60 migrant eels between February and May at Mountain Pump Station                  - Report expected over the next couple of months</p> <p><b><u>Tanekaha Drain Fencing</u></b>                  - Drain fenced off as a 'shade trial to assess influence on weed growth in drain'</p> <p><b><u>Tanekaha Ox-bow Restoration</u></b>                  - Progressing well</p> <p><b><u>Okarika Ox-bow Restoration</u></b>                  - Progressing well</p>	

<b>Level Of Protection</b>	<p><b><u>Option for Enhanced Protection</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NRC contacted regarding resource consent implications on removing downstream restriction, costs likely to be significant and process protracted, no further action proposed</li> <li>- Group Chair to confirm in writing to the proposers of the Sacrificial Otonga Pocket that this option will not be pursued</li> </ul>	Cr. Christie to write letter confirming no action on Otonga proposal
<b>Objectives</b>	<p><b><u>Short, Medium and Long Term Objectives</u></b></p> <p><b>Short Term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Address issue of large trees/significant undergrowth in the berm land to the immediate SW of Otonga PS – to discuss next meeting</li> <li>- Assess condition and understand the possibility of clearing restrictions on the Wairau River downstream of the Matarua Bridge</li> <li>- Assess the channel profile (presently pools and riffles) between the Jordan Valley Bridge and Matarau Bridge in the Wairau River</li> </ul> <p><b>Medium Term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To get the scheme running as originally intended                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Clear vegetation in river channel/berm land</li> <li>o Clear willows downstream of scheme (i.e. below Matarau Road Bridge)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Long Term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feasibility study</li> <li>- Possible change in land use</li> <li>- Increase flood protection</li> <li>- Hydrologists interpretation of future hydrographs</li> </ul>	
<b>AOB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No response was received with final decision on the proposal for the sacrificial pocket – Response required in writing</li> </ul>	

**Meeting closed at 11:20am**

**Next Meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016**