

Minutes: Hikurangi Swamp Working Group Meeting Thursday 25th September 2014 1.00p.m, Kauri Room, Walton Plaza

Minutes of meeting held at the Whangarei District Council Offices, Walton Plaza, Kauri Room on Thursday 25th September 2014 1.00p.m.

Facilitator	Councillor Crichton Christie
Purpose	Forum to discuss the Hikurangi Swamp Scheme Issues
Present	Cr Crichton Christie (facilitator), Adam Twose, Simon Weston, Zana Hamilton (scribe), Tess Dacre (NRC), Tim Brandenburg (Fonterra), Ray Hindrup, Simon Donnelley, Ken Finlayson, Jack Ilich, Andrew Ilich, Robert Olsen, Rosemary Lister, Steven Brown
Apologies	Andrew Carvell, Cr Susie Bretherton, Geoff Crawford, Bruce Howse, Hona Edwards

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

Item	Description	Action
Apologies	Accepted	Moved/Seconded
Minutes	Last Meeting Minutes. Accepted	Adam Moved Cr Christie Second
Terms of Reference	Accept the nominations for pocket reps that we have. Will accept nominations for Junction if and when they become available.	Adam Twose Cr Christie
Operations/Maintenance	<p>1. Monthly Overview from Hydrotech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean up continued from June and July storms. - Two small storms came through last month which resulted in a small volume and short duration of overtopping. <p>2. Pump Availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All pumps were available with the exception of Pump B at Ngararatunua and Pump C at Okarika. <p>3. Pump Rewind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The two small pleuger rewinds are back and are stored in the depot at the WWTP under lock and key. - Currently trying to source a prop for the bigger pump but this is proving difficult. - Cr Christie mentioned a company(Pleuger) they have sourced a prop off in the past. Adam confirmed that Pleuger have been approached but seem dis-interested, decision is to re-mould a new prop off an existing one in the summer . - To ensure operation of the large Pleuger, the plan is to switch props over when the current pump comes out. <p>4. Power Usage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Power usage for 2014 is largely similar to 2013, with July's usage virtually matching last year. <p>5. Pump Operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pumps with the lower set points were working more and keeping on top of flows this month. - Ray made a comment in regards to Pump B in Otonga as it kept cutting out. Adam confirmed there were no known issues but would raise with HydroTech <p>6. Te Mata Pump Blockage & Screen Clips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pump is now working fine. - Hydrotech have been given to go ahead to install the screen clips and this is going well. 	<p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Cr Christie</p> <p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Adam Twose</p>

	<p>7. Otonga Main Switch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Had an issue with the main incomer switch. - This wasn't checked when the Te Mata switchboard went up. - Northpower isolated this while Henwood Electrical replaced the switch. Cost is approximately \$7,000. - Station was down for 24 hours. - Decision needs to be made whether it's worth trying to claim insurance as the excess is \$5,000. <p>8. Okarika Tomo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at putting the repairs in as part of the stopbank topping programme. - Getting an estimate cost for this work. - Cr Christie mentioned that this area is difficult to compact and was never compacted very well. - Side walls are not attached to the ground. - Engineer is looking at this as part of the capex programme. - Tess requested she be informed about the safety around this project. - Issue behind the wall as well. <p>9. Spillways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One or two days every six weeks the mowing of spillways will be done. - Any issues please advise Adam. - Issue of debris was raised however it is thought that this has already been removed. 	<p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Cr Christie</p> <p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Ray Hindrup</p>
Finances	<p>Hydrotech Report Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspections \$2,638.22 - Maintenance \$1,264.25 included the tire blockage on Pump D at Te Mata. - Environmental \$519.46 included confirming probe heights to ensure pumps not cycling. - Flood Attendance \$2,631.89 included several individual visits to various pumping stations. 	<p>Adam Twose</p>
14 – 15 Drain Clearing	<p>Drain Cleaning Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maruarua River – Ngararatunua – rock obstruction needs clearing. This was questioned as it may be maintenance not part of the drain clearing programme. - Spreadsheet showing the proposed programme was shown with data and percentages of drains and requested cost per pocket. - Adam to work out Lister Drain etc with Rosemary. - Some drains are problematic and will need to be treated differently e.g. Lupton and Old Quarry. - Maruarua is an annual job. - Ngararatunua and Otonga are annual jobs. - Tanekaha would like the lagoon sprayed out. - \$400.00 was added for spraying in Junction pocket. - Ray offered out April drain for next year to get the proposal under budget. - Now 3.5k under budget. - Everyone is happy with the programme. - Spray to be done Nov-Dec. - Digging to be done Mid Nov. - Aim to complete job by end of Jan. - Cr Christie expressed thanks to everyone for co operating so well and Adam for putting the proposal together. 	<p>Adam Twose</p> <p>Ray Hindrup</p> <p>Andrew Ilich</p> <p>Ray Hindrup</p> <p>Adam Twose</p>

Buildings Maintenance	Building Condition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issue raised. - Met with handyman and done a walk around. - \$9,200 for the lot. - Double check with hydortech about the tanks. - Decision made to leave the tanks in but remove the piping. - UPDATE – Adam confirmed with HydroTech that the tanks are no longer used due to contamination issues and that HydroTech transport any water they need to site - Stainless steel bird proofing. 	Adam Twose
2014/15 Capex	Stopbank Adjustments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clements Contracting had the lowest conforming tender at \$263,695.21 which was accepted. - Recommendation for contract award sent to Council 5th September and was returned signed on the 9th September. - Price escalated by approximately \$16,000. - Want to start as soon as possible, however can't start until after 1st October due to consent. Estimated start is early November. 	Adam Twose
Station Access	Training and Trouble Shooting Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to be trained to operate council assets. - Adam supplied a flowchart to make decisions in regards to access to stations. - Also supplied a step by step checklist in regards to pumping stations. - Comments were made that the steps need to be tweaked to correspond with each individual pumping station. - Pocket reps to get names of those to be trained to Adam. Preferably 2 or 3 people per pocket. - Each person trained is only trained for that specific station and do not have authority to access other stations. - Need to display at each station who is able to access the station. - Fiona to be included in this process. 	Adam Twose Ray Hindrup Cr Christie
Berm Land	Grazing Licenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quite a few to re-license. - Fee on an annual basis. - Five year lease. - Sort out fees. - Come back on agenda in the next few months. - Survey on request basis. - Promise to bring back fees in a future meeting. - Recognise the importance of leases between this committee. 	Adam Twose Simon Weston Cr Christie

<p>Long Term Plan</p>	<p>Hikurangi Plains Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If it's not through this committee – this council is not involved. - Ray expressed concerns about the opportunity for money slipping away from us. - WDC, NRC and the Working Group need to be in control. - Tess informed us about; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Northland Inc – irrigation. o Daryl is doing up a proposal to go to MPI irrigation acceleration fund. With 50% MPI funding and 50% NRC funding if it's accepted. o Some Hikurangi farmers have the ear of the minister. o MPI is not in any position to give them this money. - Idea was put forward to write up a letter as a group to say we support WDC and NRC. - Write to MPI and seek clarification of how to apply for the funding. - Ask who has applied for funding and tell them about the Working group. - Council will do up a letter and list all people in support of us from the working group and send to MPI in regards to this issue. - Andrew Ilich brought up issues of profits and dividends that Neville Thorne had previously mentioned. - Thanks were extended to Tess for informing us of her findings. - Ray to give Adam a copy of the letter he proposed to write to Central Government. 	<p>Cr Christie Ray Hindrup Tess Dacre Simon Weston Andrew Ilich</p>
<p>Resources</p>	<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100-120 hours a month is being spent by WDC staff on swamp issues. - These meetings will drop back to every two months once we understand what we are trying to do. - No problem in calling emergency meeting if it's necessary. 	<p>Adam Twose</p>
<p>Short Term Objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To meet the terms of the resource consent – Ongoing and due for completion this summer. - Survey of berm land/Otonga PS/Jordan Valley bridge – quote obtained for \$11,500. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Concerns about the cost of this were raised. Some argued that the work to remove obstructions would only cost double the quote without having to pay for the survey. o Agreed by working group to spend the money on jobs rather than a survey if we can get the funding from council. o Hold until we know we have the funding. o A few people in the group along with Cr Christie, Adam and Tim to do a drive through to identify the areas which need work. o If the group wants to do something every year we will need to look at rates. o Andrew Ilich suggested having the next meeting out on the swamp. o Drive over and sort out next month. <p>Other short term objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess the channel profile between Jordan Valley Bridge and Matarau Bridge - Consider the possibility of trading off ox-bow within the berm land with ox-bows on private land on the pocket side of the stopbanks to aid smooth flow through the scheme whilst maintaining the environmental balance. - Lock down the date at which the scheme becomes debt free. - Investigate external sources of funding for environmental improvements within the pockets. 	<p>Adam Twose Ray Hindrup Andrew Ilich Cr Christie Adam Twose</p>

