



Minutes of the second meeting of the eighth triennium of Horizons Regional Council held at 10.02am on Tuesday, 2 November 2010, in the Tararua Room, Regional House, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs MC Guy (Chairman), JJ Barrow, LR Burnell (to 12.20pm), VJF Chettleburgh, GL Cox, EB Gordon, GM McKellar, MW Plowman, PW Rieger, CI Sheldon, RG Walker, and JJ White.

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive Mr MJ McCartney
Group Manager Corporate and Mr CA Grant
Governance
Committee Secretary Ms K Booth

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:
Mr A Cook (Group Manager Operations), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services and Information), Mr C Mitchell (Group Manager Environmental Management), Mr G Carlyon (Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory), Mrs C Rowe (Media and Communications Manager), Ms A Redgrave (Transport Services Manager).

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

PUBLIC SPEAKING RIGHTS

There were no requests for public speaking rights.

LATE ITEMS

Several late items were advised. One was a Late Item to be discussed in Public Excluded to allow for confidential discussion in regard to nominations for the Regional Affairs Committee Chair and Deputy Chair. The Chair advised he would table Annex B (Committee membership) and Annex C (Chair's recommendations for Committee Chairs and Deputy Chairs) to Item 9, 'Committee Membership' when that report was discussed.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest advised.

PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS

There were no petitions / deputations advised.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Cr White noted there was no seconder named for resolution 10-04. The Chairman clarified that had been omitted, and Cr White's name would be added as seconder.

The Chairman referred to resolutions 10-21 and 10-22 and advised that Mayor Brendan Duffy was the only nomination for Zone 3 Chair, and Mayor Jono Naylor was the only nomination as Zone 3 Representative on National Council and they were therefore elected unopposed.

10-23

Moved

Cox/Walker

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 October 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record, and with the addition of Cr White as seconder to Resolution 10-04.

CARRIED

Members asked questions of clarification on points of interest in the minutes.

PATHWAY TO CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

Report No. 10-167

This report provided Members with the opportunity to consider forming a new committee or advisory group with a focus on community engagement.

The Chief Executive introduced the report which looked at scoping out a community engagement committee or advisory group, and advised this was brought forward at Council's request. He referred Members to paragraph 6 which outlined what the committee or advisory group could address, and asked for Members' comments. The Chairman said that over time, the community had sent a strong message that Council was not engaging well, and this report was looking at ways of connecting with the community and better communication going forward.

Members indicated they were in support of better connection, relationship building, and communication with the community. During discussion, comments from Members included the suggestion that all councillors should be on the Committee initially, that it could be a subcommittee of the Strategy and Policy Committee, and that it should be a Committee rather than an advisory group because of the structure around a committee. Further suggestions and comments were that feedback be sought around non-regulatory as well as regulatory activity, that there was a need for external research to provide a reality check, that Members were engaging with the community when they spoke at group meetings, and that Council should consider carefully what and how it spent further money on communicating the business of Horizons Regional Council.

The suggestion of a workshop on community engagement with an independent facilitator, prior to consideration about forming a Committee, was supported by Members.

Members discussed amendments to the recommendations.

10-24

Moved

Burnell/Walker

That the Council:

- a. **receives** *Report No. 10-167 on community engagement;*
- b. **holds** *a workshop/s with expertise to identify the objectives towards and elements of a community engagement strategy and to bring forward suggestions and to defer this report until after the workshop/s.*

CARRIED

PASSENGER TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Report No. 10-165

The purpose of this report was to discuss and decide on the establishment of a Passenger Transport Committee of Council to replace the Passenger Transport Subcommittee which has

operated during previous Council terms. Ms Redgrave, (Transport Services Manager) spoke to the report. She noted that the Passenger Transport Subcommittee (PTS) was concerned with operational details of passenger transport, while the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) had a broad strategic role. It was believed it would be more appropriate for a Passenger Transport Committee (PTC) to report directly to Council, which would enable quicker decision-making and ensure that Council had involvement in the passenger transport decisions. She clarified that no other changes were proposed.

In discussion around the PTC Terms of Reference (TOR), Ms Redgrave clarified that the work of the Passenger Transport Subcommittee was already included in the Regional Land Transport Programme, and the Regional Land Transport Strategy, and that would continue to take place if it became a committee. Members suggested amendments for the Passenger Transport Committee TOR, and the Chair asked for these amendments to be brought back to Council for ratification.

10-25

Moved

Chettleburgh/Barrow

That the Council:

- a. **approves** the establishment of a Passenger Transport Committee of Council;
- b. **approves** the Terms of Reference for the Passenger Transport Committee and with recommended amendments;
- c. **amends** the Terms of Reference for the Regional Transport Committee to correct reference to the Passenger Transport Subcommittee.

CARRIED

Abstain: Cr McKellar

Cr McKellar advised he would abstain as he did not yet fully understand the work of the Passenger Transport Committee.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Report No. 10-164

The purpose of this report was to appoint Chairs and Members to committees. At the Inaugural meeting of Council held on 26 October 2010, the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of Council were appointed.

The Chairman tabled two annexes: Annex B (his recommendations for Committee compositions) and Annex C (his recommendations for Chairs and Deputy Chairs). He asked Members to delete the reference to the Community Engagement Committee following the decision of Council earlier in the meeting. He advised that his recommendations were based on discussions he had had with Members since the Inaugural Council meeting, and his intention was to draw all Members together in a balanced way to provide for best use of their skills and aspirations, and to allow committees to function with a broad range outlook.

Members discussed the tabled Annex B. There was comment about Council appointments, both formal where Councillors were appointed to attend meetings of some organisations (Members had voting rights and were paid a meeting fee) and informal attendance at community group meetings (Members attended in their own time and at their own expense). Cr Chettleburgh explained about the Heritage Park Trust and said he attended the Trust meetings at no cost to Council. A comment, for consideration, was made that six-monthly feedback could be received from representatives on the Massey Animal Ethics Committee or the Regional Animal Health Committee, however it was accepted that no confidential information could be shared.

Cr Gordon referred to the composition of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee, and proposed that Cr White be included for her expertise and as proposed Chair of the Environment Committee. It was requested that an amendment be made to the existing Terms of Reference (TOR) for that Committee.

The representation on the Manawatu River Users' Advisory Group was discussed.

10-26

Moved

Walker/Rieger

That the Council:

- a. **approves** Annex B (Committee membership) subject to deletion of Community Engagement Committee and the inclusion of Cr White as a member of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee with appropriate amendment to Terms of Reference for that Committee.

Committee Membership

The Chairman of Council is ex officio on all Committees.

Council	All Councillors (12)
Strategy & Policy (Committee of the Whole)	All Councillors (12)
Catchment Operations	Crs J Barrow, L Burnell, B Gordon, P Rieger, B Walker
Environment	Crs J White, G McKellar, V Chettleburgh, G Cox, C Sheldon, M Plowman
Audit, Risk & Investment (meetings can be called at short notice)	Crs P Rieger, G Cox, J Barrow, B Gordon, G McKellar, J White
Regional Transport	Crs B Gordon, V Chettleburgh
Passenger Transport	Crs V Chettleburgh, C Sheldon, G Cox,
Manawatu River Users' Advisory Group	Crs L Burnell, C Sheldon
Civil Defence Emergency Management Group	Chair of Council
Linklater Bursary Subcommittee	Crs G McKellar, C Sheldon, J White

Council Appointments (Where there is a request for an Horizons Regional Council representative)

Massey Animal Ethics	Cr L Burnell
Zone 3	Cr V Chettleburgh, Cr C Sheldon
Regional Animal Health Committee	Cr M Plowman

CARRIED

The Chairman referred to tabled Annex C and asked Members to decide on a voting system.

10-27

Moved

Guy/Sheldon

- a. **receives** the document entitled 'Chairman's Recommendations for Committee Chair/Deputy Chair Positions to Horizons Regional Council as tabled;
- b. **resolves** that System A (3 or more candidates) or System B (for 2 or less candidates) of the procedures as set out in Clause 25(3) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 be adopted for the election of Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons of the committees.

CARRIED

The Chairman then asked for nominations for the Chairs and Deputy Chairs to the committees.

10-39

Moved

Guy/Walker

That the Council:

- a. **accepts** *Annex C (election of Chairpersons, and Deputy Chairs to Committees), with the deletion to Community Engagement as agreed by the meeting.*

CARRIED

MEMBERS' REMUNERATION

Report No. 10-168

This item recommended for Council adoption, levels of remuneration allowances and expenses for Councillors. The Group Manager Corporate and Governance (GMCG) spoke to the Report. He asked Members to consider the weightings for additional responsibilities for Chairs and Deputy Chairs of committees, and consider and approve the policies attached to the Report, in order that these could be forwarded onto the Remuneration Authority (RA) for its approval.

Members discussed the salary pool and noted that in 2007, the Local Government Commission determined that Horizons Regional Council would have 12 elected members (not 11 as in the previous triennium), however the salary pool was not increased by the RA.

The GMCG referred Members to page 31 (Allocation of Salaries and Meeting Fees Policy) and noted that 3(b)(vi) should be deleted as it was now included in 3(a). The Chairman explained how the number of meeting fees was calculated.

The GMCG clarified Members' questions in regard to the weightings.

The Chairman referred Members to the Proposed Councillors' Allowances and Reimbursements Policy, in particular a clause 5.2, new second paragraph which had recently been received from the RA. Members discussed the implications for Regional councillors who usually had a much greater distance to travel than city or district councillors. Members discussed the wording of a resolution to be put forward to the RA.

10-40

Moved

Rieger/White

That the Council:

- a. **agrees** *that the threshold for any mileage claim for Council business be 10 kilometres but that all mileage be recompensed if travel is more than 10km.*
- b. **agrees** *that the maximum payment of 8,000 kilometres claimed by any one elected member in any one year for Council business, will have automatic approval, but claims in excess of that will be subject to the Chair's approval.*

CARRIED

The GMCG explained clause 8.2.1 (mobile phone policy) and clarified Members' questions. He advised that once the policy had been approved by the RA, then the communications and technology entitlement would be made to Members on a pro rata basis.

10-41

Moved

Sheldon/White

That the Council:

- a. **approves** the Remuneration and Expense Policy outlined in Annex A;

- b. **approves**, as amended, the Allocation of Salaries and Meeting Fees Policy at Annex B;
- c. **approves**, as amended by resolution 10-40, the Allowances and Reimbursements Policy at Annex C; and
- d. **agrees**, the proposed Remuneration and Expense Policy, Allocation of Salaries and Meeting Fees Policy and Allowances and Reimbursements Policy be forwarded to the Remuneration Authority for approval.

**Against (a) Cr Plowman
CARRIED**

Cr Plowman advised he would vote against (a) as those Members on the base salary had been disadvantaged through no increase in salary pool.

The meeting adjourned at 12.20pm.

The meeting resumed at 1.21pm.

The Chief Executive updated Members on arrangements for the *Councillors' Southern Tour* which was taking place on 11 and 12 November 2010.

10-42

Moved

Guy/Rieger

that the public is to be excluded from this portion of the Council meeting as the general subject matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for passing of this resolution is as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Grounds under section 48 (1) for passing this resolution
PX1 Lower Manawatu Scheme – Contract No. 2008/19 – Kopane Bridge Replacement <i>Report No. 10-166</i>	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX 2 – LATE ITEM Regional Affairs Committee – Election of Chair and Deputy Chair <i>Report No. 10-173</i>	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the need to maintain the privacy of natural persons.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX3 Council to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain, and define the extent of the release.		

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 1.30pm and resumed at 2.22pm.

The Chairman explained there would be no Chairman's Report or Chief Executive's Report at this Council meeting as Council had met the previous week. He explained to the new Members, about Members' Reports and Questions which would be part of future Council meetings.

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

The Chairman invited Members to ask any questions they may have.

Cr Walker asked whether a presentation could be made to Members about lean business practices. The Chairman asked him to bring full information to the next Audit, Risk and Investment Committee meeting for consideration. There was discussion about the timeframe for undertaking the Chief Executive's performance appraisal.

Cr Chettleburgh asked about the art works installed as part of the Manawatu Gorge project. The CE advised that a sculpture/monument was proposed and that iwi were currently being consulted in regard to this.

Cr Sheldon said she attended the Regional Transport public meeting at Horizons, the previous day, and said there were good ideas coming from the public.

Cr White said she attended the Inaugural meeting of the Wanganui District Council, and the swearing in ceremony of Mayor Annette Main (former Horizons Regional councillor).

Cr Plowman asked about progress with a resource consent for river management works at Kakahi. The GMO said he would provide an update at the next Catchment Operations Committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 2.49pm.

Confirmed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN