



Minutes of the fifth meeting of the eighth triennium of Horizons Regional Council held at 10.01am on Monday, 21 February 2011, in the Tararua Room, Regional House, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs EB Gordon (Chairman), JJ Barrow, LR Burnell, GL Cox, MC Guy, GM McKellar, MW Plowman, PW Rieger QSO JP (to 11.09am), CI Sheldon, RG Walker (to 11.09am), and JJ White.

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive Mr MJ McCartney
Group Manager Corporate and Mr CA Grant
Governance
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:
Mr A Cook (Group Manager Operations), Mr C Mitchell (Group Manager Environmental Management), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services and Information), Mr G Carlyon (Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory), Mr Collé (Chief Financial Officer), Mrs C Rowe (Media and Communications Manager), Mr R Munneke (Manager Policy), Mayor A Main, Chief Executive Kevin Ross, Cr S Westwood, Mr R McGregor (Wanganui District Council), Mrs E Goodwin (Press), and Mr J Beard (member of the public).

APOLOGIES

11-74 Moved White/Walker

That an apology be accepted from Cr Chettleburgh.

CARRIED

PUBLIC SPEAKING RIGHTS

There were no requests for public speaking rights.

LATE ITEMS

The Chairman referred to the two late items for consideration:

- Proposed Changes to Council's Committee Structure and Councillors' Remuneration, Report No. 11-26.
- Draft Annual Plan 2011-12, Report No. 11-27 (Public Excluded).

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Sheldon noted a possible conflict of interest in regard to the minutes of the public excluded Catchment Operations Committee of 9 February, 2011 – Report No. 11-19, Lower Manawatu Scheme – Grazing Lease.

PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS

There were no petitions / deputations advised.

11-77

Moved

White/Burnell

That the Council:

- a. **receives** Report No. 11-23;
- b. **awards** Alana Standish a Linklater scholarship to the value of \$4,000 for the 2011 academic year. Payment will be (\$2,000 per semester with the second semester's payment based on satisfactory academic results in semester one);
- c. **approves** a second Linklater scholarship to the value of \$3,000 to be awarded (\$1,500 per semester with the second semester's payment based on satisfactory academic results in semester one) to an applicant studying in the field of Resource Management, Environmental Planning, or River and Drainage.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOLLOW UP

Report No. 11-24

This report was a follow up to the Community Engagement Workshop held in January 2011, and detailed actions which arose from the workshop.

The Chief Executive and Members provided their views and comments on suggested recommendations to improve community engagement. In discussing the role of Chairs of committees being used for comment in media opportunities, it was suggested that Councillors from the constituency to which the matter was relevant, also be included when appropriate. Accordingly recommendation (b) iii was altered.

11-78

Moved

McKellar/Sheldon

That the Council:

- a. **receives** Report No. 11-24;
- b. **instructs** the Chief Executive to begin implementing the actions listed in paragraph 11, as follows;
 - i. *Cost of one Council meeting in each district per annum to be calculated and brought to council for consideration;*
 - ii. *Thirty minutes to be set aside following council/committee meetings for the Chair of the meeting and Communications Manager to discuss key messages and spokespeople for any required media releases;*
 - iii. *Chairs of committees will, as a general rule, be used for comment in pro-active media opportunities, along with the Councillors from that constituency when appropriate;*
 - iv. *Media releases detailing decisions made in Council will include information on the number of Members voting for and against recommendations;*
 - v. *Elected Members will continue to be informed of public meetings or events that they may wish to attend by way of the Chief Executive's monthly report;*
 - vi. *The possibilities of utilising audio visual media as a tool of engagement will be trialled;*

- vii. *Community Engagement section to be added to council report templates to ensure consideration is paid to how projects will be communicated to the public.*
- c. ***instructs*** the Chief Executive to report on Community Engagement Initiatives to the Strategy and Policy Committee on a six monthly basis;
- d. ***instructs*** the Chief Executive to arrange media training with an external provider for the Chairs of Council committees.

CARRIED

AFFIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL

Report No. 11-25

This paper reported on documents to which Horizons Regional Council's common Seal had been affixed.

11-79

Moved

Rieger/Sheldon

*That the Council **acknowledges** the affixing of the common Seal to the following documents:*

- Warrant Card Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
Staff Member: Ross Brannigan – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010 – Enforcement Officer
Employee: Michael Shane Bayley
- Warrant Card Employee: Gregory Robert Bevin
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee: Pita Nathan Kinaston
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee: Rebecca May Fryett
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee: Juliet Patricia Hurley
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee: Harold Ivan Barnett
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee: Evan Martin Lloyd
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010

- Warrant Card – Honorary Enforcement Officer
Ian Halliday Taylor - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card – Honorary Enforcement Officer
Bruce Edward Colley - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card – Honorary Enforcement Officer
Allan Wakeling - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card – Honorary Enforcement Officer
Maurice Reid - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card – Honorary Enforcement Officer
Roger O'Sullivan - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card – Honorary Enforcement Officer
Mike King - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card – Honorary Enforcement Officer
Keith Eveleigh - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee – Paul Ramon Turner
Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010 – Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Employee – Ian Clifford McMahon
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee – Alison Frances Russell
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee – Leigh Pierre Christensen
Enforcement Officer - Manawatu River and Tributaries
Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2010
- Warrant Card Employee – Juliet Patricia Hurley
Enforcement Officer
- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Pita Nathan Kinaston
- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Alison Frances Russell
- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Robyn Maree Harrison

- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Robert Angus Rose
- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Adam James Duker
- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Gregory Robert Bevin
- Contract document for Contract No. 2010/50 -
Lower Whanganui Scheme
Planter Boxes on Gilbert Street
- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Leigh Pierre Christensen
- Warrant Card Enforcement Officer
Rebecca May Fryett
- Contract: Roxburgh Crescent – Albert Street
Stopbank Upgrade
Horizons Regional Council and Graeme Bagrie Contractors Ltd
- Contract: Tai Elmsdale Stopbank Construction
- Tender Document – July 2010
Kopane Bridge Replacement Project

CARRIED

WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE

A change had been made to the Manawatu River Action workshop date and it was not possible for all Councillors to receive the information about the change. This included Cr McKellar who would have attended had he been informed. Cr McKellar's apology for non-attendance was therefore altered accordingly. Cr McKellar asked that an effort be made to update the bulletin at the time changes were made.

11-80

Moved

Sheldon/Cox

*That the Council **notes** the Workshop attendances 9 December 2010 – 14 January 2011, with the following amendments:*

- *note correct date for the Community Engagement workshop of **26 January 2011**.*
- *Apology for non-attendance from Cr McKellar altered to say 'Cr McKellar was not informed of the change to the workshop date – he would have attended had he been informed'.*

CARRIED

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 Late Item: Draft Annual Plan 2011-12 Report No. 11-27 | 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. |
| PX2 Confirmation of Minutes of 21 December 2010 | 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. |
| PX3 Endorsement and adoption of the Catchment Operations Committee resolutions and recommendations of 9 February 2011 | 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. |
| PX4 Endorsement and adoption of the Passenger Transport committee resolutions and recommendations of 10 February 2011 | 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. |
| PX5 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 11.09am and resumed at 5.11pm.

ENDORSEMENT AND ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

STRATEGY & POLICY COMMITTEE

The Chairman drew Members' attention to resolution SP 11-08 – "**approves** the sponsorship of Te Manawa's River Exhibition, resulting in an overspend of \$25,000 in the 2010-2011 Communications and Promotions budget, subject to content being approved by Council". He advised that by endorsing and adopting the minutes the resolution would be implemented.

11-82

Moved

Guy/White

*That the Council **endorses and adopts** the resolutions and recommendations of the Strategy & Policy Committee meeting held on 8 February 2011.*

CARRIED

Crs White and McKellar had both indicated a possible conflict of interest in regard to Item 13 (River Exhibition – Te Manawa). The Committee deemed that there was no conflict of interest for either Councillor.

Members provided comment on funding options for the approved sponsorship of Te Manawa River Exhibition.

Cr Plowman referred to Report No. 11-17, Questions from Councillor Plowman and believed it was a subjective interpretation of the discussion. The Chairman asked Councillor Plowman to submit a paper to the next Council meeting outlining his interpretation of the discussion.

CATCHMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

11-83

Moved

Barrow/McKellar

*That the Council **endorses and adopts** the resolutions and recommendations of the Catchment Operations Committee meeting held on 9 February 2011.*

CARRIED

The Chairman drew Members' attention to resolution COP 11-12 – "**recommends** that 20% general rate be applied to flood damage reinstatement works funded from Scheme reserves, and that the Chief Executive **confirms** that the policy is being applied". By endorsing and adopting the minutes the resolution would be implemented.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

11-84

Moved

Sheldon/Cox

*That the Council **endorses and adopts** the resolutions and recommendations of the Passenger Transport Committee meeting held on 10 February 2011.*

CARRIED

LATE ITEMS

PROPOSED CHANGES TO COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND COUNCILLORS REMUNERATION

Report No. 11-26

This report was brought for Members' consideration as a result of the election of Cr Bruce Gordon as Chairman of Horizons Regional Council on 8 February 2011. The Chairman had proposed some amendments to the Committee structure which, if approved, would result in an increase to Members' remuneration.

Mr Grant, Group Manager Corporate and Governance (GMC&G) expanded on the proposed amendments as outlined in Annex A. He referred Members to Annex B which showed an increase

in salary for all Councillors as a result of a redistribution of the 0.55 weighting for the position of Chair of the Regional Transport Committee.

Members fully discussed the amendments and resulting increase to Members' remuneration. A suggestion was provided to perhaps allocate part of the 0.55 weighting to cover remuneration payments for those Councillors who may be asked to undertake extra responsibilities, eg. One Plan Advisory Group, and weightings for Deputy Chairs. The GMC&G explained that any changes made to the meeting fee policy would have a corresponding effect on the salary pool, and accordingly would need to be forwarded to the Remuneration Authority (RA) for its approval. In regard to determining a weighting for deputy chairs a new calculation would need to be presented for Members' consideration. Members asked questions of clarification and provided comment about the effects of the suggested proposals on the remuneration pool for Members. The Chairman proposed that a 0.25 weighting be included for Cr Rieger as Deputy Chair of Council. As Cr Rieger was also Chair of Audit, Risk and Investment which carried a weighting of 1.30, his combined weighting would be 1.55. The Chairman also proposed that an item be presented to Council for approval of a directors' fee in recognition of the workload undertaken by the Chair of MW Holdings. No fee was paid for the position at present. The GMC&G undertook to make the amendments to the Remuneration and Expenses Policy to be forwarded to the RA for approval. Accordingly, recommendation (c) was amended.

11-85 **Moved** **White/Plowman**

That the Council:

- a. **receives** the information in Report No. 11-26;
- b. **agrees** that the amended Committee Structure at Annex A to Report No. 11-26 be forwarded to the Remuneration Authority for approval;
- c. **agrees** that the revised Remuneration and Expenses Policy at Annex B to Report No. 11-26, as amended with the inclusion of 0.25 to the weighting for the Deputy Chair of Council, be forwarded to the Remuneration Authority for approval.

CARRIED

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Positive comments were noted about the inclusion of the upcoming meeting schedule in the Chairman's report.

11-86 **Moved** **Gordon/White**

That the Chairman's report be received.

CARRIED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Chief Executive (CE) referred to the annexed agenda items about upcoming meetings to be held in Wellington: The Regional Council Chief Executives' Meeting on 22 February and the Chief Executives' Environment Forum Meeting on 23 February 2011. The CE spoke to his report and elaborated on areas of interest. Members asked questions of clarification.

11-87

Moved

White/Guy

That the Chief Executive's report be received.

CARRIED

MEMBERS' REPORTS AND QUESTIONS

Cr Barrow attended the usual meetings/workshops. He attended an informal meeting with a Tararua District Councillor concerning various issues in the Woodville area, and attended a meeting and visited a detention dam in Pahiatua.

Cr Burnell attended the usual meetings/workshops.

Cr Cox attended the usual meetings/workshops. He advised he was spending time learning and understanding Horizons' business.

Cr Guy attended the usual meetings/workshops. Cr Guy was Chair of Council up until 31 January.

Cr McKellar attended the usual meetings/workshops. He unfortunately was not advised about the change of date to the Manawatu River Action workshop and was therefore unable to attend. He briefed Members about the upcoming Federated Farmers' Farm Day on Sunday 13 March.

Cr Plowman attended the usual meetings/workshops, an Animal Health Board meeting, and a Pakihi Scheme meeting about spraying of stream banks.

Cr Sheldon attended the Wanganui Bus Service tour on 18 January, attended a Save Our River Trust Meeting, and spoke at the Foxton Community Board meeting on 7 February. She attended the usual meetings/workshops, visited Rangiotu Marae on 17 February, and had a phone call from a ratepayer in Sanson expressing concerns about flooding.

Cr White attended the usual meetings/workshops, she enjoyed a visit to view the work being undertaken on the Napier Road stopbank and thanked the Group Manager Operations for organising the visit. She attended and enjoyed the Palmerston North City bus tour with the Passenger Transport Committee.

Members discussed the Training / Conference Attendance Opportunities for 2011.

The Chairman requested that in future any significant questions from Members be presented in writing, at least two days before the Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.55pm

Confirmed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN