



Minutes of the eleventh meeting of the eighth triennium of Horizons Regional Council held at 10.03am on Tuesday, 30 August 2011, in the Tararua Room, Regional House, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

**PRESENT** Crs EB Gordon (Chairman), JJ Barrow, LR Burnell (to 12.18pm), VJF Chettleburgh QSM ED, GL Cox, MC Guy, GM McKellar, MW Plowman, PW Rieger QSO JP, CI Sheldon (from 10.05am), RG Walker and JJ White.

<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	Chief Executive	Mr MJ McCartney
	Group Manager Corporate and Governance	Mr CA Grant
	Committee Secretaries	Ms G McRae (to 12.18pm)
		Ms K Booth (from 1.00pm)

**ALSO PRESENT** At various times during the meeting:  
Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services and Information),  
Mr G Carlyon (Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory),  
Ms C Barton (Principal Planner), Mr R Munneke (Manager, Policy),  
Mrs C Rowe (Media and Communications Manager), Mr A Cook (Group Manager Operations), Mr T Collé (Chief Financial Officer), and a member of the Press.

## **APOLOGIES**

**11-160** *Moved* **Barrow/White**

*That an apology be accepted from Cr Sheldon for lateness.*

**CARRIED**

## **PUBLIC SPEAKING RIGHTS**

There were no requests for public speaking rights.

## **LATE ITEMS**

A Late Item entitled '*Proposed Taringamotu Scheme: Special Hearing Committee Membership*' (Report 11-155) was tabled by the Chair. He noted that the item had not been included in the published agenda due to an oversight and asked that the item be included for consideration at today's meeting. There were no objections.

## **MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Mrs C Rowe was invited to introduce her two new staff members. Ms A. Koehler (Communications Advisor) and Ms K. Ritani (Communications Advisor) were welcomed to the Council by the Chair.



The motion was amended by the mover with no objections from the meeting.

11-163

**Moved**

**White/Chettleburgh**

*That the Council*

- a. **receives** the information in Report No. 11-144 regarding how the National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management 2011 is given effect to in the Proposed One Plan;
- b. **notes** that policies A4 and B7 of the National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management 2011 will be inserted when the Proposed One Plan is reproduced as a result of changes required to the Proposed One Plan through the resolution of Appeals.
- c. **notes** that further analysis will be undertaken by the Policy Team by December 2011 in the following areas:
  - i. assess how the policy framework supporting Schedule D “Surface Water Quality Targets” can be strengthened to set limits to achieve the numerics within the Schedule;
  - ii. whether the rules need to articulate how the adoption of the best practicable option will be achieved;
  - iii. the establishment of environmental levels (for water quantity) for lakes and wetlands;
  - iv. provide a policy framework establishing the common catchment expiry dates as the timeframes by which there will be no over-allocation allowed within specific catchments or a percentage reduction to head towards the objectives;
  - v. the need for provisions regarding efficient water allocation.
  - vi. **and other matters as appropriate.**
- d. **notes** that if as a result of the further analysis undertaken (refer to clause (c) above) a Plan Change is considered necessary to give effect to the National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management 2011, then this matter will be reported back to Council by December 2011. [This date will enable achievement of the dates set within the National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management 2011 – refer to Section E in Annex Two.]

**Against:** Crs McKellar and Plowman  
**CARRIED**

## **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 – PHASE II REFORMS**

*Report No. 11-145*

This report informed Members about the Government’s progress with the Phase II reforms of the Resource Management Act (RMA) 1991. It was introduced by Mr Carlyon (GMRPR) where he noted that changes to the RMA may be made after the General Election.

**11-164**                      **Moved**    **White/Guy**

*That the Council*

- a.            **receives** the information provided in Report No. 11-145; and
- b.            **notes** its content.

**CARRIED**

## **REPORT FROM APPEALS ADVISORY GROUP**

*Report No. 11-147*

This report updated Council on progress made to resolve appeals to the Proposed One Plan as Amended by Decisions. The report covered the period 15 July 2011 to 19 August 2011. The report was introduced by Mr Munneke and Ms Barton who noted that this had been a very productive process, intense but healthy and that the collective wisdom of all the parties would create a stronger final One Plan.

**11-165**                      **Moved**    **Chettleburgh/White**

*That the Council*

- a.            **receives** the report of the Appeals Advisory Group.

**CARRIED**

## **WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE**

**11-166**                      **Moved**    **Burnell/Chettleburgh**

*That the workshop attendances for 21 July 2011 – 17 August 2011 be received.*

**CARRIED**

## **ENDORSEMENT AND ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Cr Walker commented on his attendance at this meeting and issues surrounding his attempts to receive more information about the stock effluent disposal site process. The CE undertook to provide Cr Walker with a formal letter in response to his queries. Cr Walker was also invited to attend the next Regional Transport Committee meeting in which the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) would address this issue.

Members also discussed the wording relating to non-compliance notices being issued to local authorities but agreed that this would be addressed at the next Environment Committee meeting.



11-171

**Moved**

**Guy/Gordon**

*That the Council*

- a. **receives** the information contained in Report No. 11-155, and
- b. **endorses** the composition of the Taringamotu Hearing Committee as proposed by the Chairman of Cr Guy (Chair), Cr Cox, and Cr Plowman.

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

11-172

**Moved**

**Gordon/Barrow**

*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
Confirmation of Minutes of 27 July 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.
PX2 Regional Software Holdings Limited <i>Report No. 11-146</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.
PX3 Endorsement and Adoption of the Strategy and Policy Committee resolutions and recommendations of 10 August 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 16 August 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 <b>consider</b> whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain, and <b>define</b> the extent of the release.		

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 11.50am and resumed at 1.06pm.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman presented his report and answered questions of clarification about his attendance at various meetings and upcoming scheduled meetings. He elaborated on the site visit about sand country drainage, and he thanked Members for their participation in the Councillors' Strategy session. He and Cr Guy updated Members on the MWRC Holdings meeting held on 29 August.

**11-173                      Moved    Gordon/White**

*That the Chairman's report be received.*

**CARRIED**

## **MEMBERS' REPORTS AND QUESTIONS**

**Cr Plowman** attended the usual Horizons' meetings and workshops. He travelled to the Regional Animal Health Committee meeting but found it had been cancelled and he had not been notified. It was rescheduled for 1 September. He attended the proposed Taringamotu scheme meeting, and met with Ruapehu District Council about the Kakahi flood protection scheme.

**Cr Walker** attended the Environment Committee and Council meetings and a workshop. He had several meetings with Alan Taylor, Chairman of the Wanganui Rural Community Board about stock effluent issues. He had meetings with several ratepayers about increased rates, and an environmental issue and was working with Wanganui District Council on that issue.

**Cr Chettleburgh** attended a workshop, the Catchment Operations meeting, the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting, the Councillors' Strategy session, a meeting of the Jaycee Trust, commented on regional facilities such as the Regent Theatre and Massey University, attended a bus terminus working party, Passenger Transport meeting, and a Massey Graduate Research School "3 minute presentation on PhD thesis" competition. He said that several of the presentations were of interest to Horizons and said that if other councillors were interested in attending in the future, he would ask for invitations to be sent. Cr White, who also attended, elaborated further on the topics of the presentations which would be of interest to Horizons. Councillors indicated their interest in attending in the future.

**Cr Sheldon** attended workshops, a One Plan Advisory Group meeting, Catchment Operations meeting, Strategy and Policy Committee meeting, the Councillors' Strategy session, Passenger Transport meeting. She received several ratepayer queries about Moutoa scheme consultation, and also the Taonui Basin. She would be attending a talk in Foxton about whitebait the following day. She advised she would be on study leave for the September Council meeting, and applied for leave of absence.

**11-174                      Moved    Rieger/White**

*That Cr Sheldon be granted leave of absence from the Council meeting and workshop on 27 and 28 September 2011.*

**CARRIED**

**Cr Rieger** attended the usual Horizons' meetings and workshops, and undertook the Chairman's duties while the Chairman was on leave.

**Cr McKellar** attended the meetings he was a member of, and the workshops. He commented on the TV1 item on the CMP plant near Marton where the number and length of shifts was to change. He visited Kopane Bridge, noted that all the concrete had been poured and asked about an official opening. The Group Manager Operations said he would update Councillors closer to the time. Cr McKellar referred to future meetings he would attend on 2 and 23 September, and a workshop to

be held by Integrated Professional Solutions on 2 November at Massey about the economics of the Manawatu River Accord.

**Cr Guy** attended the usual Horizons' meetings and workshops apart from the first day of the Strategy session when he was involved as a Hearing Commissioner in Wanganui. He attended several meetings of MWRC Holdings Ltd discussing investments. He said a company workshop would be held on 12 September and there would be a report back to Council on 27 September. He attended the Taringamotu proposed scheme meeting and said the Hearing would be held at the end of September. He attended a second meeting at Moutoa in relation to an audit carried out on the Scheme. Two meetings had been held with the Liaison Committee in an attempt to finalise a recommendation to Council about the changes as a result of the audit. He would be attending a meeting on 1 September with affected ratepayers on the Taonui Basin, and he would attend a workshop to be held by the Industry of Forestry in Wellington. He provided clarification to Members about the Industry of Forestry workshop.

**Cr Cox** attended the usual Horizons' meetings and workshops except Passenger Transport. He enjoyed the Councillors' Strategy session and said it was worthwhile changing other appointments to be there. He had received calls from several ratepayers concerned about rural road closures and thanked the Chief Executive and Group Manager Environmental Management for their guidance. Cr Cox asked about sediment catch pond construction when contractors were undertaking road construction. The Chairman said the CE would address that at the end of Members' Reports.

**Cr White** made special mention of the Councillors' Strategy session and found it very worthwhile. She spoke to a Probus Group at Takaro. She spoke to a group at the Wesley Broadway Church about the Manawatu River Accord and what was happening. At that gathering, a film called 'Water Whisperers' was shown which looked at water quality/quantity issues around New Zealand and possible solutions, which she found interesting. Cr White commented on the recent Compliance workshop and looked forward to a report to a future Strategy and Policy Committee meeting. She also attended the Massey University '3 minute Thesis presentation' as mentioned by Cr Chettleburgh and undertook to request invitations for Members. Cr White attended an He Tini Awa meeting looking at seeking external funding. She referred to the meeting with Messrs Glasgow and Cunliffe around issues of water flowing through their sand country and looked forward to updates. She referred to her support of the Green RIG, launched the Green RIG badges, and invited Members to wear one, noting a \$3 donation would be appreciated.

**Cr Barrow** attended the usual Horizons' meetings and workshops. He met with the Mayor and Chief Executive of Tararua District Council, and met with the Dannevirke Community Board about the Long Term Plan. Interest was expressed in a borough bus service for the elderly, and the feasibility was being investigated. He attended, with Cr Cox, a Forest and Bird meeting. Cr Barrow asked about road closures due to slips, and mentioned the possible effect on local businesses. The Chief Executive explained about rules and rationales for issues such as soil disturbance (slips, diversions, sediment ponds etc) and said a report would be brought to an Environment Committee meeting which would provide more details. Members asked questions of further clarification about instances where there had been slips, which the Chief Executive and the Chairman responded to.

The Chief Executive mentioned the workshop being held the next day on the Manawatu River Action Plan, and said that for those Members who were interested in attending, he would provide them with a copy of the draft Agenda item.

The meeting closed at 2.20pm.

Confirmed

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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CHAIRMAN