



Minutes of the thirtieth meeting of the seventh triennium of Horizons Regional Council held at 10.02am on Tuesday, 4 May 2010, in the Tararua Room, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

**PRESENT** Crs G P Murfitt MNZM JP (Chair), L Bailey (from 10.15am), L R Burnell, V J F Chettleburgh QSM ED, E B Gordon, M C Guy, A K Main, D B Meads, M W Plowman, P W Rieger QSO, R G Walker JP, and J J White.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Chief Executive Mr M McCartney (to 12 noon)  
Group Manager Corporate and Governance Mr C Grant  
Committee Secretary Mrs J Kennedy

**ALSO PRESENT** Mr G Carlyon (Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory, at various times throughout the meeting), Mr C Mitchell (Group Manager Environmental Management, to 1.32pm), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services and Information, from 10.32am to 12 noon), Mr A Cook (Group Manager Operations, from 11.13am to 12 noon and from 1.09pm to 2.24pm), Ms K Booth (Governance Coordinator, from 11.50am to 12 noon), Ms F Maseyk (Senior Scientist – Ecology, to 10.57am), Mr A Beveridge (Environmental Manager – Biodiversity, to 10.57am), Ms C Rowe (Communications Manager, from 1.30pm to 1.53pm), Ms A Redgrave (Manager Transport Services, from 10.54am to 11.06am), Ms K Lowe (Transport Planner, from 10.54am to 11.06am), Ms C Webb (ratepayer, from 1.51pm to 2.15pm).

#### **APOLOGIES**

An apology was received from Cr Bailey (for lateness).

**10-535** *Moved* *Murfitt/White*

*that an apology be received from Cr Bailey (for lateness).*

**CARRIED**

#### **PUBLIC SPEAKING RIGHTS**

No requests for public speaking rights had been notified.

#### **LATE ITEMS**

Two late items were notified for Members' consideration. A preliminary discussion in public excluded on the process and implications of Wanganui District Council and Ruapehu District Council proposal to secede from Horizons and form a unitary authority, and a brief discussion on any submissions made by Horizons to territorial authorities' Draft Annual Plans, on the grounds that the information had only just been received and submissions were due to close before the next meeting of Council.

10-536

**Moved**

**Murfitt/Rieger**

*that the Council **receives** as late items under public excluded:*

- *A preliminary discussion to be held in public excluded on the proposal by Wanganui District Council and Ruapehu District Council to secede from Horizons Regional Council.*
- *A brief discussion on any submissions made by Horizons to territorial authorities' Draft Annual Plans, on the grounds that the information had only just been received and submissions were due to close before the next meeting of Council.*

**CARRIED**

### **MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Cr Chettleburgh declared a personal conflict of interest in regard to Item 7, Updates to Councillors – iwi initiatives, and withdrew from discussions when the item was considered.

### **PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS**

There were no petitions or deputations.

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

10-537

**Moved**

**Rieger/Main**

*that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2010, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**CARRIED**

Cr Plowman asked for clarification around entitlement of mileage allowance for attending the Ballance Farm Awards. The Chairman said the matter could be raised during Members' Reports and Questions.

### **UPDATE TO COUNCILLORS – IWI INITIATIVES**

*Report No. 10-53*

This item provided an update to Councillors on iwi initiatives over the past 18 months.

Mr Carlyon, Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory referred to the positive relationship that had been formed with iwi, hapu and other maori groups within the Region. He identified the substantial range of projects being undertaken with tangata whenua involvement, and referred to the significant community benefits delivered from a number of those programmes. He was available to answer Members' questions around the type of services that trainees from the development programme were contracted to provide. Mr Carlyon explained that trainees were contracted to provide animal and plant pest management activities both for the Department of Conservation and Horizons Regional Council. He further expanded on the shared full-time staff position with Nga Whenua Rahui to obtain support for environmental management programmes on maori land, work with the leadership of Ngati Apa to develop the recently returned site of the Nga Pae o Rangitikei, and available budget for delivery of identified projects.

Mr Carlyon referred to the presentation from Tanenuiarangi Manawatu Inc and advised that this would be provided at the 25 May Council meeting to be held at Te Hotu Manawa O Rangitaane O Manawatu Marae, Maxwells Line, Palmerston North. Recommendation (a) was therefore deleted and recommendation (b) was altered to *receives* rather than *notes* the programme of work undertaken in relation to the iwi initiatives programme.

**10-538**

**Moved**

**Burnell/White**

*that the Council:*

- b. receives the programme of work undertaken in relation to the iwi initiatives programme.*

**CARRIED**

## **BUSH REMNANT PRIORITISATION SITE SELECTION**

*Report No. 10-50*

The purpose of this item was to provide detail on the process by which high priority bush remnants were selected to receive Horizons' funded protection works.

Ms Maseyk, Senior Scientist – Ecology referred to the tabled Annex A which replaced Annex A contained in the agenda.

Ms Maseyk highlighted the three stages outlined for the application of the prioritisation / site selection process. The site selection process was designed so that sites could be assessed for ecological value and prioritised for selection as data became available, or sites became known. This ensured that the process remained dynamic and that resources continued to be appropriately spent.

Cr Plowman believed that biodiversity was unaffordable for the regional council and suggested that it was a function for territorial authorities to provide. He referred to Section 31 of the Resource Management Act, and Section 10 of the Local Government Act. There was discussion around his comments and Cr White said it was an important function for the regional council to provide, and commented on the level of expertise provided by Horizons' staff.

Ms Maseyk was available to answer questions of clarification. She was thanked for her informative report.

**10-539**

**Moved**

**Guy/Main**

*that the Council:*

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 10-50, and Annex.*

**CARRIED**

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE 2010**

*Report No. 10-49*

This report was to determine Members' attendance at the 2010 Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Conference.

Cr Walker explained his view that only the Chief Executive and Chairman should attend the Conference.

Members discussed the attendance of Councillors at the Conference and ultimately it was agreed for the recommendation to reflect that Crs Main and Plowman would give consideration to attending, along with the Chief Executive and Chairman of Council.

10-540

**Moved**

**Meads/Burnell**

*that the Council:*

- a. **approves** the attendance of the Chairman of Council, and Councillors Plowman and Main (to consider), with leave of absence granted and expenses paid, and the Chief Executive, at the 2010 Local Government New Zealand Conference at Auckland from 25-28 July 2010, and includes any Pre-tour.

**Against:** Cr Walker  
**CARRIED**

## **NOMINATIONS FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION**

*Report No. 10-51*

This report was to determine the process for the appointment of community representatives for access and mobility issues, and cultural interests to the Regional Transport Committee (RTC).

A total of six nominations had been received. The Transport Planner requested that responsibility for the selection of the two representatives required, one for access and mobility, and one for cultural interests, be delegated to the two Horizons Regional Council members on the Regional Transport Committee, Councillors Gordon and Chettleburgh.

10-541

**Moved**

**Rieger/Meads**

*that the Council:*

- a. **delegates** responsibility to the regional council members of the Regional Transport Committee, Councillors Gordon and Chettleburgh, to:
- i. consider nominations received; and
- ii. appoint appropriate representatives for access and mobility, and cultural interests to the Regional Transport Committee.

**CARRIED**

## **AFFIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL**

*Report No. 10-52*

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

10-542

**Moved**

**Rieger/Bailey**

*that the Council **acknowledges** the affixing of the Common Seal to the following documents:*

- *Warrant Card: Adam Duker – Enforcement Officer*
- *Warrant Card: Brent Fanning – Enforcement Officer*
- *Warrant Card: Juliet Hurley – Enforcement Officer*
- *Memorandum of Understanding – Ngati Rangī Trust and Horizons Regional Council – Relationship Agreement*
- *Stopbank Agreement Man Wah Tai and Manawatu Wanganui Regional Council*
- *Deed of Agreement - Elmsdale Land Ltd and Manawatu Wanganui Regional Council*





Cr Plowman questioned the non-payment of mileage allowance for attending the Ballance Farm Awards. Mr Grant, Group Manager Corporate and Governance read out the policy in regard to the payment of mileage allowance, and confirmed that mileage for travel to attend the Ballance Farm awards was not payable under the policy, unless payment was endorsed through a resolution of Council or by the Council chairperson / relevant Committee. Members discussed and expressed their views around the payment/non-payment of mileage allowance for the Ballance Farm Awards. Ultimately the following recommendation was suggested.

**10-547**

**Moved**

**Rieger/Walker**

*that the Council:*

- a. **acknowledges** that mileage allowance for Councillors attending the Ballance Farm Awards can be claimed for the 2010 year only.

**Against:** Cr Meads, Guy, Gordon, White, Murfitt, Main

**Abstain:** Cr Bailey

**LOST**

**Cr Meads** attended the usual Council and Committee meetings. He found the joint meeting with Tararua District Council very useful, attended a Manawatu District Council meeting, 11 Annual Scheme Ratepayer Meetings, a tour of the Lower Manawatu Scheme work sites, and chaired several Emission Trading Scheme Seminars.

**Cr Main** attended a meeting in Wanganui where a report on the Navigation and Safety Assessment was presented, Matarawa, Whangaehu-Mangawhero Annual Scheme Ratepayer meetings, a Whanganui River Working Party meeting, and the Ballance Farm awards. She enjoyed the Regional Territorial Authorities' Forum, chaired a couple of informative carbon trading workshops, and found the joint meeting with the Tararua District Council very valuable.

**Cr Guy** attended a Planning and Policy Committee meeting at Palmerston North City Council, the Whangaehu-Mangawhero, and Ohau-Manakau Annual Scheme Ratepayer meetings, enjoyed the Territorial Authorities' Forum, enjoyed the joint meeting with the Tararua District Council, attended the Catchment Operations Committee meeting and the tour of the Lower Manawatu Scheme work sites, chaired a meeting of the Chairs of drainage schemes, gave a presentation to the Manawatu District Council around the Sustainable Land Use Initiative programme and possum control, attended a National Noise Standards update on windfarms at the Palmerston North City Council, and an Emissions Trading Scheme Seminar in Feilding.

**Cr Gordon** spoke of his recent trip away and thanked Members for accepting his apology during his absence. He attended the joint meeting at the Tararua District Council and the Regional Territorial Authorities' Forum, a Regional Advisory Group meeting on 7 April, a Roads of National Significance meeting on 19 April, and attended several Annual Scheme Ratepayer meetings.

**Cr Chettleburgh** met with the New Zealand Transport Association Board, attended a National Noise Standards update on windfarms at the Palmerston North City Council, a Windfarm Conference trade display on 30 March, the Green Hub opening in Palmerston North, the bus terminus working party on 14 April, chaired a meeting in regard to the Capital Connection service, attended an Animal Health Board meeting in Palmerston North with Crs Murfitt and Rieger, attended the Territorial Authorities' Forum on 22-23 April, an Audit, Risk and Investment meeting on 26 April, the Annual Manawatu Garden Show in Feilding on 1 May, and would be attending the Commencement Ceremony at the International Pacific College on 4 May.

**Cr Burnell** attended the usual Council and Committee meetings.

**Cr Bailey** attended the Ohau Scheme Liaison Committee meeting on 24 March, a Lower Manawatu Scheme Liaison Committee meeting on 29 March, the Horowhenua District Council Transport and Health Sub-Committee meeting on 1 April, Catchment Operations Committee meeting on 12 April, an informal gathering called by the Chairman on 14 April, a joint meeting with Tararua District Council which she found very valuable, the Manawatu Drainage Annual Scheme Ratepayer meeting and the Lower Manawatu Annual Scheme Ratepayer meeting on 15 April, the Territorial Authorities' Forum on 22-23 April, a civic ceremony for the re-dedication of the Levin Cenotaph on 24 April, the Anzac day dawn service in Levin on 25 April, Audit, Risk and Investment Meeting followed by a Councillors' workshop on 26 April, the Ohau-Manakau Annual Scheme Ratepayer meeting on 30 April, the Moutoa Drainage Annual Scheme Ratepayer meeting on 3 May, the Koputaroa Drainage Annual Scheme Ratepayer meeting on 3 May, and the Council meeting on 4 May.

Cr Bailey asked if a date had been set for a pre-strategy session workshop. The Chairman undertook to followup on that.

Mr Carlyon, Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory provided background on a presentation that was to be made to the Horowhenua District Council meeting on 5 May in respect to the Shannon Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Cr Bailey asked for clarity on a proposal from Local Government New Zealand for a national television advertising campaign to promote voter turn-out for the upcoming local elections. Mr Grant, Group Manager Corporate and Governance advised that an offer of \$5,000 had been made in support of the campaign, provided all parties participated. A decision on the future of the campaign would be made by Local Government New Zealand in around two weeks.

**10-548**

**Moved**

**Murfit/Plowman**

*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 Confirmation of Minutes of 23 March 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.
PX2 Endorsement and adoption of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee (Tender) resolutions and recommendations of 12 April 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 Audit, Risk and Investment Committee resolutions and recommendations of 26 April 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.
PX4 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 2.16pm and resumed at 2.24pm.

### **LATE ITEM – Submissions by Horizons to Territorial Authorities' Draft Annual Plan**

There was discussion and suggestions made around the content of submissions by Horizons to territorial authorities' Draft Annual Plans. Mr Carlyon, Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory provided clarification to Members' questions. He undertook to arrange for Penny Tucker, Consents Planner to liaise with Councillors for their suggestions on the content of submissions.

Mr Carlyon provided clarification around the extension of an expired consent in regard to the Longburn wastewater discharge.

**10-549**

**Moved**

**Murfitt/Main**

*that the public is to be excluded from this portion of the Council meeting to enable Councillors to have a discussion and offer opinions on the proposal by Wanganui District Council and Ruapehu District Council to secede from Horizons, and decide on what information, if any, to provide to the public.*

**Against: Cr Plowman**  
**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 2.46pm and resumed at 3.30pm.

**In the public excluded part of the meeting Council considered and decided that the following information be made available to the public.**

- *At the public excluded part of the Council meeting held on 4 May 2010, the Council recommended that the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 March 2010, excluding Significant Debtors, be moved to the public part of the meeting. These are detailed below:*

**PX 10-156 Moved**

**Rieger/Meads**

*that the Public Excluded minutes of 23 March 2010 be moved to the public part of the meeting, excluding Significant Debtors.*

**CARRIED**

**CONFIDENTIAL**



Minutes of that part of the Horizons Regional Council meeting held on Tuesday, 23 March 2010, from 3.10pm to 3.27pm, in the Tararua Room, Regional House, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North, to which the public were excluded, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the specific grounds under Section 48(1) LGOIMA are 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 Confirmation of Minutes of 23 February 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.
PX2 Endorsement and adoption of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee resolutions and recommendations (Tender) of 26 February 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 Environment Committee resolutions and recommendations of 8 March 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.
PX4 Endorsement and adoption of the Strategy and Policy Committee resolutions and recommendations of 9 March 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.
PX5 Endorsement and adoption of the Audit, Risk and Investment Committee resolutions and recommendations (Tender) of 9 March 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.
PX6 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.		

#### **PRESENT**

Crs GP Murfitt (Chair), L Bailey, VJF Chettleburgh, MC Guy, AK Main, DB Meads, MW Plowman, PW Rieger QSO, RG Walker JP, and JJ White.

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Group Manager Corporate and Governance Mr C Grant  
Committee Secretary Mrs J Kennedy

#### **APOLOGIES**

An apology for Cr Gordon was noted in the public part of the meeting.

#### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**PX 10-148**

**Moved**

**Meads/Rieger**

*that the minutes of the confidential part of the meeting held on 23 February 2010, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**CARRIED**



**PX ARI 10-77**

**Moved**

**Chettleburgh/Meads**

*The Audit, Risk and Investment Committee:*

- b. **approves** the awarding of a contract to Higgins Contractors Ltd, in the sum of \$592,717 for the raising of a section of SH3 in the vicinity of Napier Road Drain; and
- c. **moves** the decision to award the contract to Higgins Contractors Ltd out of public excluded.

**CARRIED**

- *At the public excluded part of the Council meeting held on 4 May 2010, the Council recommended that resolution PX 10-162 in the public excluded part of the meeting, be released to the public part of the meeting. This is detailed below:*

**PX 10-162**

**Moved**

**White/Main**

*that Horizons **continues** to regard the Wanganui and Ruapehu districts as important parts of the Manawatu-Wanganui Region, and restates its willingness to work alongside the Wanganui District Council and Ruapehu District Council with all available information to assist them in their decisionmaking in respect of forming a unitary authority.*

**CARRIED Unanimously**

**PX 10-163**

**Moved**

**Bailey/Burnell**

*that resolution PX 10-162 be released to the public part of the meeting.*

**CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 3.31pm.

Confirmed

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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CHAIRMAN