



Report of the fourteenth meeting, seventh triennium, of the Catchment Operations Committee of Horizons Regional Council held in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North at 10.06am on Monday 12 April 2010.

PRESENT Crs DB Meads (Chairman), EB Gordon, MC Guy, GP Murfitt, PW Rieger (to 12.34pm), and RG Walker (to 12.34pm).

IN ATTENDANCE Crs Bailey, Chettleburgh, Main, Plowman, and White
Chief Executive Mr M McCartney (to 10.20am)
Group Manager Operations Mr A D Cook
Committee Secretary Mrs J Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT Mr P Blackwood (Manager Investigations and Design from 11.12am to 12.24pm), Mr G Cooper (Environmental Manager Land from 10.51am), Mr P Hawinkels and Mr M Guy (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry from 12.24pm), and Mr J Beard (member of the public from 10.48am to 11.18am).

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

LATE ITEMS

There were no late items advised.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no Members' conflict of interest issues.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RD 10-117

Moved

Rieger/Meads

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Catchment Operations Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 9 February 2010, be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

RIVER AND DRAINAGE ENGINEERING REPORT

Report No. 10-45

This item reported on progress with river and drainage activities for the two-month period 1 February 2010 to 31 March 2010.

The Group Manager Operations (GMO) introduced the report and was available to answer questions of clarification on points of interest. He explained Council's position around the decision not to provide instalment rating in respect of scheme rates and commented on feedback from the presentation on the overall Lower Whanganui River Scheme establishment

and capital works programme to the Tupoho Working Party. He clarified Members' questions in regard to the identified mitigation options for the Hopcroft land, located on the left bank of the Manawatu River downstream of Staces Road. A preferred option had been developed in consultation with the owner and that would be submitted as part of the proposed City Reach stopbank raising consent application. He explained that investigations were being undertaken in respect of the Hopcroft property in advance of the substantial body of work about to commence that should lead to the lodging of a consent application in mid-August. Members sought clarification around the intended flood protection level for the land upstream, opposite and downstream from the Lower Manawatu Scheme City Reach.

In answer to a Member's question the GMO explained the continued difficulties being experienced with regard to property entry and land purchase matters with the owners of one property affected by the Staces Road stopbank project. Until those issues were resolved it was very likely that construction work would be delayed on that property until the next construction season. In the meantime, unfortunately the Aokautere area would be denied the 1% AEP standard flood protection it was entitled to.

The GMO undertook to keep Councillors fully updated on any developments with the Staces Road stopbank project. He indicated that a full report on progress with the City Reach consent application would be provided to the June Catchment Operations Committee meeting.

The GMO further responded to questions around Stage 1 of the Tangimoana stopbank upgrade project, progress in regard to the flooding issues around the Tukorehe Marae and State Highway One, and outlined the difficulties encountered in respect to the work programmed to commence on the lower 900 metres of the Hokio Stream. A further meeting with parties was scheduled for 15 April and the GMO undertook to provide an update of that meeting to Cr Bailey. Cr Bailey asked that the Hokio Progressive Association also be kept advised of progress.

RD 10-118

Moved

Rieger/Guy

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** and acknowledges the information contained in Report No. 10-45; and
- b. **acknowledges** that a Schedule of Works Completed is available for inspection.

CARRIED

RANGITIKEI RIVER SCHEME – REVIEW NO. 4 CHANNEL MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT *Report No. 10-44*

This item informed Members of progress with a review into the channel management aspect of the Rangitikei River Scheme.

Mr Blackwood, Manager Investigations and Design introduced the report and he and the Group Manager Operations (GMO) responded to comments about gravel extraction, in particular the serious drop in riverbed volume and levels in the reach from Kakariki to Rewa. There was discussion and clarification sought around the conditions placed on a recently granted application to extract gravel at Kakariki. The GMO undertook to provide clarification on whether the applicant had agreed to the consent conditions, and whether the consent was now operative.

RD 10-119

Moved

Guy/Gordon

- a. **receives** the information contained in Report No 10-44 and Annex;
- b. **notes** that a Final Draft Review Report will be submitted to the June meeting of the Catchment Operations Committee.

CARRIED

ISSUES ARISING FROM ANNUAL SCHEME RATEPAYER MEETINGS

Report No. 10-46

This item informed the Committee of progress in addressing the significant issues raised at annual meetings for river and drainage schemes that were held during April 2009.

The Group Manager Operations introduced the report.

RD 10-120

Moved

Rieger/Murfitt

- a. **receives** the information contained in Report No. 10-46 and Annex.

CARRIED

SUSTAINABLE LAND USE INITIATIVE (SLUI)

Report No. 10-43

This report updated Members on progress on Council's Sustainable Land Use Initiative (SLUI).

Mr Cooper, Environmental Manager Land introduced the report and highlighted various points of interest. Cr Murfitt advised about a possible visit by the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry to discuss and observe the SLUI activity.

Cr Chettleburgh sought clarification around the allocation of Afforestation Grants Scheme funding pool. The Environmental Manager Land undertook to provide a full report on that to the June Catchment Operations Committee meeting.

RD 10-121

Moved

Rieger/Meads

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the information in Report No. 10-43 and Annex.

CARRIED

Crs Rieger and Walker left the meeting at 12.34pm

The meeting adjourned at 12.34pm

The meeting reconvened at 1.10pm.

PERMANENT FOREST SINK INITIATIVE AND THE EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME
Mr Pat Hawinkels and Mr Myles Guy, Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Hawinkels presented an overview of the Permanent Forest Sink Initiative and the Emissions Trading Scheme.

Members asked questions of clarification.

The meeting closed at 2.15pm

Confirmed

GROUP MANAGER OPERATIONS

CHAIRMAN