

MINUTES

In Attendance

Governance Group: Clinton Hemana (Co-Chair), Rachel Keedwell (Co-Chair), Dean Wilson, Sam Ferguson, Bernie Wanden, Eva Weatherall, Jo Mason, Larry Parr (fill in for Quentin Parr until he arrives), Quentin Parr (arrived at 1703), Jon Procter, Bryan Smith joined the meeting at 1614 and left at 1655.

Support Team: Logan Brown, Siobhan Karaitiana, Shannon Johnston, Jon Roygard, Staci Boyte, Roger McGibbon.

1 Welcome and meeting overview

Dean opened the meeting with a karakia, Rachel welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies and confirmation of the agenda

Apologies were received from Rārite Mātaki, Di Rump.

3 Conflicts of interest

No new conflicts of interest added.

Quentin to be added to the COI list and Rarite to be removed.

4 Wetland complex option multi criteria analysis

A Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) was completed based on the seven wetland options presented to the Governance Group in May 2022. The process and outcome was summarized and the options assessment was provided.

Staci ran through the key decision points from the previous Governance Group meetings. The MCA report was taken as read.

Questions and answers:

- Timeframes and the ability to get consented and constructed within the timeframes of the J4N funded project. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



- The on-going maintenance and operational costs and how the MCA report had assessed all options being similar. The maintenance of what is required within each wetland is different however, all will require on-going

maintenance and relatively similar associated costs at the high level assessment undertaken for the MCA. Related to this was a question around on-going funding for the maintenance of the wetland. Currently the Arawhata sediment trap operational costs are met through a targeted rate, a number of options are available to HRC in terms of options for funding of the operation/maintenance of the wetland.

- There was a discussion around groundwater levels around the proposed wetland area and how these are potentially changed as a result of the project and that they will need to be considered carefully in this process. This will be one of the key considerations in the wetland design. There are options within the design process to contain water within the wetland complex and keep the groundwater levels the same if not better than it currently is. Hybrid design allows us to manage and contain water in a better manner, and will be carefully considered and managed as part of the design process. Based on this was a further question around whether the design team is confident in the ability to keep effects within the property boundary. A more engineered process/wetland will allow this.
- Whether the pathway between the Lake Horowhenua and Lake Waiwiri was considered in the MCA. This pathway will be built into the design (master plan) but is not within the budget for the this project (J4N funded project).
- One of the suggestions from the Community Stakeholder Group was for the diversion of the Arawhata catchment around/out of the lake. There was a question as to whether this had been considered any further. At this stage it hasn't been taken any further, there are likely to be a number of considerations for such a proposal including engineering and cultural.
- Whether the use of only native plant species limit the ability for contaminant removal. No it does not – native species can do all the things that we need to do in terms of wetland treatment.
- Mātauranga process – Siobhan covered off the process that had been followed. Farm visit in March, and the kaumata on the project are familiar with the site from when they were kids and the area was still a wetland.
- Whether the phasing proposed was due to budget constraints or the ability to construct the wetland. Funding is the factor for phasing, actual construction can happen reasonably quickly.
- Whether coppicing of plants is possible? Maintenance of the wetland will require the plants having a "hair cut". Rushes, sedges are generally used in a constructed wetland. Denitrification processes (bacteria) seem to align with the vigour of the plants. Maintenance of the wetland is vital to have ensure on-going treatment. Ability to make a economic return on the harvested wetland can be considered as part of the design process.

- More natural wetlands have less control than the more engineered wetland types and therefore in general have a lower treatment removal compared to the engineered options.
- Overall need to keep it in the context of the current dairy farm operation and removing the dairy over time will reduce the nutrient inputs to the lake in itself.
- Some concerns were raised over what has been relayed to the community in terms of what the wetland will be. It was emphasized that this is a significant wetland (the 15 hectare one as per the Deed deliverable), being one of the biggest wetlands to be constructed within New Zealand. It will make a difference to the lake. The additional purchase of the land allows for many future options.

Next steps: Comms is important in the next steps. We need to get the messaging out about the wetland and where the project is at.

RESOLVED: The Governance Group endorses the development of wetland complex option 5 into a conceptual design to enable further community consultation/engagement and the preparation of a draft resource consent application.

Rachel/Clinton
CARRIED

12 Other Business

Comms – bring a draft plan back to the Governance Group for consideration and feedback for the July 2022 meeting. Need to organize a press release for the chosen option being taken through into conceptual design.

Release of documents into the public arena – an item is to be brought to the Governance Group at the next meeting as to how this can be done and what documents can be released at this time.

There was a brief discussion around other funding avenues and whether we should be starting to consider these. In the short term the focus is to be on the design and getting more indicative costs to enable those future discussions to happen.

1744 closed the meeting at Dean with a karakia.

Action Summary

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| 1 | Provide a copy of the presentation to the Governance Group | Logan |
| 2 | Draft comms plan to come back Governance Group for the July meeting. | Logan |
| 3 | Meeting between HDC and HRC around stormwater management and options for the land parcel. | Rachel |
| 4 | Placement of documents onto a public website | Logan |