

Minutes of the fifth meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Strategy and Policy Committee (Live Streamed) held at 10.00am on Tuesday 11 August 2020, in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs JM Naylor (Acting Chair), AL Benbow, EM Clarke, DB Cotton, SD Ferguson, EB Gordon, FJT Gordon, WM Kirton, NJ Patrick, WK Te Awe Awe, and GJ Turkington

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive Mr MJ McCartney
Group Manager
Corporate and Governance Mr C Grant
Committee Secretary Mrs KA Tongs

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:
Dr N Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation), Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services & Information), Mr T Bowen (Principal Advisor), Dr L Daly (Senior Scientist – Ecology), Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager), Ms J Smart, Mr A Cole and members of the public.

The Acting Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Cr Te Awe Awe to say a Karakia.

APOLOGIES

SP 20-22 Moved Naylor/Ferguson

That an apology be received from Chair RJ Keedwell (attending official Council business).

CARRIED

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

Janine Smart and Alastair Cole had both been granted public speaking rights.

Janine Smart introduced herself as an active member of several Foxton community groups and highlighted the importance of the Foxton Estuary and the desire of the community to protect it. She endorsed the recommendation in Item 7 to approve Horizons funding to the Biodiversity Grants Fund allocation for the 2020-2021 financial year which included the Manawatu Estuary.

Alastair Cole from NZ Landcare Trust, spoke on behalf of the Manawatu Estuary Management Team, highlighted the special character of the Foxton Estuary for the Manawatu region, and noted it was a wetland of international importance. Mr Cole also endorsed the proposed allocation of funding for the Manawatu Estuary recommended in Item 7 and mentioned the need for more funding in the future.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Turkington noted a Conflict of Interest in Report No. 20-100, Biodiversity Partnerships Projects.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

SP 20-23

Moved

Patrick/Clarke

That the Committee:

confirms the minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting held on 10 March 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 7 April 2020.

CARRIED

BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS PROJECTS

Report No 20-100

This report was introduced by Dr Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships) and he spoke about Horizons' current approach to biodiversity management with a focus on the non-regulatory biodiversity activities. The paper sought Council's decision on proposed changes to Horizons' Biodiversity Partnerships Programme, which included the range of collaborative projects with other agencies and community groups to enhance biodiversity within the Region. It also sought Council's decision on funding allocation for Biodiversity Partnerships projects for the 2020-21 year. Dr Roygard answered Members' questions and ultimately there was a slight amendment to the wording of the goal of the Biodiversity Partnerships programme in recommendation b.

SP 20-24

Moved

F Gordon/Ferguson

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-100.
- b. approves the goal of the Biodiversity Partnerships programme as "Empowering communities to reconnect with and improve biodiversity".
- c. approves the revisited structure for the Biodiversity Partnerships programme to include community engagement, biodiversity collaboration projects ("icon" and targeted rates projects), and the contestable biodiversity grants fund;
- d. approves allocation of \$50,000 excluding GST to biodiversity community engagement activities.
- e. approves allocations of Horizons funding to biodiversity collaboration projects for the 2020-21 financial year as follows:

<i>Project</i>	<i>2020-21 FY (excluding GST)</i>
<i>Te Āpiti</i>	<i>\$244,856</i>
<i>Kia Wharite</i>	<i>\$150,000</i>
<i>Pūkaha</i>	<i>\$37,292</i>
<i>Bushy Park</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$452,148</i>

- f. approves allocations of Horizons funding to the "Biodiversity Grants fund" allocation for the 2020-2021 financial year as follows:

<i>Project</i>	<i>2020-21 FY (excluding GST)</i>
<i>Cape Turnagain</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>Manawatū Estuary</i>	<i>\$25,000</i>
<i>Te Pōtae o Awarua</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Turitea Reserve</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
<i>Awahuri Forest- Kitchener</i>	<i>\$8,000</i>
<i>Ahimate Reserve</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
<i>Tawata</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>
<i>Kahutarawa Stream</i>	<i>\$8,000</i>
<i>Massey Hill</i>	<i>\$3,500</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$109,500</i>

- g. approves allocation of Horizons funding to the Weedbusters programme of \$22,996 excluding GST.*
- h. approves the framework for a contestable fund to be run as a contestable process from the 2021-22 financial year.*
- i. approves Councillor Patrick as the chair for the decision-making committee for the contestable fund and Councillors F Gordon and Turkington as the other committee member/s.*

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL APPOINTED TRUSTEE TO THE MANAWATŪ-WHANGANUI REGIONAL DISASTER RELIEF FUND TRUST (DRFT)

Report No 20-101

This report confirmed Horizons Regional Council's representative to the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Disaster Relief Fund Trust (DRFT).

SP 20-25

Moved

Naylor/Clarke

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-101.*
- b. confirms Cr Rachel Keedwell as the Horizons representative on the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Disaster Relief Fund Trust board.*
- c. acknowledges and thanks Cr Bruce Gordon for his contribution during his time on the board.*

CARRIED

FOXTON EAST DRAINAGE SCHEME LIAISON GROUP

Report No 20-102

Mr Strong (Group Manager River Management) introduced this item which sought Council's approval to establish a liaison group for the Foxton East Drainage Scheme and confirmed Horizons' governance representation for Foxton Futures. After discussion, it was agreed to amend the wording in the third bullet point under recommendation b. to read 'Up to four Iwi representatives from Ngāti Raukawa and Muaūpoko'.

SP 20-26 Moved Cotton/Ferguson

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-102.*
- b. approves the establishment of the Foxton East Drainage Scheme Liaison Group as outlined in the proposed structure below:*
 - From Horizons the Chair of the Catchment Operations Committee and the two Horowhenua Constituency Councillors;*
 - From Horowhenua District Council the two Foxton Constituency Councillors;*
 - Up to four Iwi representatives from Ngati Raukawa and Muaupoko;*
 - A representative from the Foxton Community Board (FCB).*

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 11.23am.

Confirmed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIR