

## HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

### EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NGATEA SERVICE CENTRE, 84 ORCHARD WEST ROAD, NGATEA ON THURSDAY, 03 DECEMBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM

**PRESENT** R Hunter (Chairperson), K J Reid, K R Caddy, T Nicholson, D Coldicutt, P Schouten, R Webster and Cr P Buckthought

**IN ATTENDANCE** S Clark (WRC - Works Supervisor, Paeroa Team – Integrated Catchment Management), A Munro (Manager - Integrated Catchment Management), A de Laborde (Group Manager – Engineering Services), S de Laborde (Infrastructure Systems & Planning Manager), B Stephens (Drainage Overseer) and C Black (Council Secretary)

#### **APOLOGIES**

#### **RESOLVED**

THAT the apology of A Green be received and sustained.

EPDD20/21

Reid/Nicholson

**CARRIED**

#### **LATE ITEMS**

There were no late items.

CONFIRMATION: EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE MINUTES – 01-10-20 - 2866701

#### **RESOLVED**

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Eastern Plains Drainage District Committee held on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 are received and confirmed as a true and correct record.

EPDD20/22

Caddy/Webster

**CARRIED**

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters raised.

WRC Update Report – Steve Clark

Operational:

- Over the month Mill Creek and Torrs have had structural audits.
- Slaughter house floodgate audit will be carried out next week – coffer dams are in today.
- Spraying of toe drains has commenced.
- Sign off extension to the Roger Harris pump has been approved to allow digger to undertake work required.
- Pipe has been ordered for Wani Road pump outlet – to be completed in New Year.
- Inspections of stopbanks has commenced.
- Wani Road pump has been refurbished and motor has now been replaced.
- Louch Macduff pump will be completed after xmas.

## WRC Update Report - Adam Munro

### Strategic:

Adam spoke on the drought impact from last season's severe dry spell and advised that WRC are reviewing what is the operational focus for this season as well as looking at long-term solutions for these events.

Of note, he spoke on the severity of watercourses that had dried up particularly in the lower Piako resulting in a large number of stranded tuna (eels) that needed rescuing and an outbreak of botulism at some "hot" spots.

WRC have established a drought response team made up of the key stakeholders of Fish and Game, Iwi, DoC, WRC and GNS scientists.

Rainfall is well below normal levels currently.

WRC are currently working on a response plan in preparedness for any future drought events.

Adam highlighted the importance that a drought declaration is notified early to allow landowners to take pro-active measures in support of their farming operation in advance.

Funding – 'in kind' funding support from agencies involved is available.

### Summary of Shovel Ready Projects

Muggeridge's Project is still waiting for ministerial approval.

Scheme upgrades on the foreshore toe drains and the Piako River stopbanks (particularly in the reach from Ngataea to the mouth), will also be funded by the shovel ready programme.

Adam spoke on the Shovel Ready projects and advised of the link to the website listing all confirmed projects: [Shovel ready projects | Waikato Regional Council](#). The Council Secretary will email the link to all members.

### Floodgates

Factory, Campbell's and O'Carroll's – the Chair asked about the plan for these floodgates. Steve de Laborde advised that the design of stopbanks has not been finalised yet. The land purchased from the McGaffin's is at the southern end close to Factory. Still work to be done. This is a shovel ready project – all projects must be completed within 5 years.

Cropping around drains as it relates to sedimentation. Adam advised he would update on this matter in future.

Adrian spoke of the regulations pertaining to crop planting near drains. The regulations are clearly available within the Land Drainage Bylaw document in the HDC website.

## DRAINAGE REPORT – OCTOBER 2020 AND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 4 MONTHS TO 31 OCTOBER 2020 - 2866701

The Infrastructure Systems and Planning Manager presented the monthly drainage activity report for October 2020.

## **RESOLVED**

THAT the report be received.

EPDD20/23

Webster/Nicholson

**CARRIED**

A discussion was held as regards to the use of Round Up as an approved herbicide.

### GENERAL BUSINESS:

#### MetConnect Service

Steve de Laborde advised that MetConnect is a service that Council uses. It is a commercial internet based subscription weather service that can be modified to suit your business needs.

Met Connect presents much of the information found on metservice.com in much more detail. In addition, a wide range of industry specific weather services is provided.

Steve de Laborde asked if the members wished to sign up for this service and inquired if the committee could access it via WRC.

Adam advised the members of the link to the Waikato Regional Council website that gives information on hazards. [Waikato Regional Hazards Portal](#) and [Flood room live | Waikato Regional Council](#).

Council Secretary will email links to all members.

### GENERAL BUSINESS:

#### MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Roger Hunter – observed that there is seepage at the Campbell's floodgate.

Keven Caddy – water levels in drains has dropped and weeds are taking over.

Damon Coldicutt – T-Head pump is still pumping.

The meeting closed at 2.15pm.

CONFIRMED

R Hunter  
Chairperson

4 March 2021