

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, 04 MARCH 2021 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM

PRESENT Cr P Buckthought (in the Chair), K R Caddy, T Nicholson, P Schouten and R Webster

IN ATTENDANCE A de Laborde (HDC Group Manager Service Delivery), EJ Wentzel (HDC Utilities Manager), C Moore (Manager Projects & Operations), B Stephens (Drainage Overseer) and A de Waal (Utilities Administrator/Secretary)

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

THAT the apology of R Hunter, D Coldicutt and Cr R Garrett be received and sustained.

EPDD21/24

Caddy / Webster

CARRIED

Resolution to appoint Chairperson in the absence of the Chair and Deputy Chair.

RESOLVED

THAT Cr Buckthought be appointed as Chairperson for the duration of the meeting.

EPDD21/25

Caddy / Webster

CARRIED

LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

Introductions

The Group Manager, Service Delivery introduced new Council staff members in attendance. Staff members - Campbell Moore, EJ Wentzel and Anita de Waal spoke briefly about their roles.

CONFIRMATION: EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE MINUTES – 3-12-20 - 2868186

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Eastern Plains Drainage District Committee held on Thursday, 03-12-20 are received and confirmed as a true and correct record.

EPDD21/26

Nicholson / Schouten

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters raised.

Waikato Regional Council Update:

The Group Manager – Service Delivery presented the WRC update in the absence of Steve Clark.

- The old bank around the land purchased by WRC near Campbell's Floodgate has had its strengthening commenced with the bank blowout to be rectified to stop water inundation of this area.
- A meeting on Tuesday, 2 March 2021 for WRC was held to discuss status of projects.

Shovel ready projects:

- Piako Green Corridor planting program is yet to be confirmed.
- Upgrades to the Piako River foreshore stopbanks
- WRC are putting together a working party which should include local drainage committee members for the input / representation for the Green Corridor Project. Keven Caddy nominated Roger Hunter and Richard Webster as alternate appointed as the proposed speakers/representatives for this working group.
- No more updates on the Muggeridge project.

EASTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE ACTIVITY REPORT – NOVEMBER TO JANUARY 2021 – 2905132

The Group Manager Service Delivery presented the drainage activity report and financial report for 7 months to 31 January 2021.

RESOLVED

THAT the Drainage Activity report for the period November – January 2021 and the financial report on the operations of the Eastern Plains District Drainage Area for 7 months to 31 January 2021 are received.

EPDD21/27

Webster / Schouten

CARRIED

Member's feedback on drainage matters:

The members were invited to raise any matters requiring consideration within their designated drainage areas.

- Ted Nicholson – asked about better management of drains and floodgates.
- Peter Schouten – conveyed to the Drainage Overseer and his team, appreciation for the good work they had undertaken of recent drain spraying.
- Richard Webster – queried the budget of what is currently still available. Also the broken pipe in Johnson's. Will this be fixed before winter? The Drainage Overseer advised he has no answer for this as it is being investigated by WRC and will probably not get looked at before winter. It was decided that they meet on site with the Drainage Overseer and see if they can come up with an alternative solution in the meantime.

- Kevin Caddy – concurred with Peter Schouten’s comments on the good drain spraying work undertaken.

New Staff

The Drainage Overseer advised that he has a new staff member, Dallan Priest, who will be joining his team.

Metconnect

Committee members brought up the Metconnect service. The Group Manager advised that Council has only been supplied with limited licenses. They were told that there are other ‘free’ sites available that should be able to help them monitor the up and coming weather.

Eel Issues

The Group Manager Service Delivery briefly talked about the eel monitoring updates. The Group Manager provided data on how many have been collected, relocated and perished.

Committee Re-Naming

The Group Manager Service Delivery has been asked to take a report to Council to consider the ‘change of name’ of the Drainage committees to reflect their revised environmental focus. He stated that this matter requires further consideration of all committee members and asked members to provide feedback to him with their suggestions. Once feedback has been received, he will advise of these.

Drain Cleaning

Members were reminded that if they identify any drains that require cleaning to advise the Group Manager - Service Delivery. The helicopter spray programme is due to start in two weeks. The Group Manager also asked that he be updated if members observe any trapped eels that need to be dealt with.

Botulism Update

The Utilities Manager gave an update on the botulism issues that have occurred in Council’s ponds and advised his team are monitoring this.

T-Head Pump Hours

Pump hours for the T-Head pump were questions as to why it was so high. The Drainage Overseer explained why this was so. It is a small pump that is affected by a spring feed into the drain which is why it is running more than the others.

The meeting closed at 2.17pm

CONFIRMED

P Buckthought
Chairperson

06 May 2021

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