

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

WESTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WESTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WILLIAM STREET, PAEROA ON THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2019 COMMENCING AT 10.30 AM

PRESENT

Messrs B A Carter (Chairperson), B Keane, P A Leonard, H van Eyk, R D Young, P Johnstone and Cr D H Swales

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr R Hicks (WRC Waihou-Piako Catchment Committee Chair), K Growden (WRC Team Leader – Hauraki/Coromandel Integrated Catchment Management), Cr P Buckthought, Cr J R H Thorp, A de Laborde (Group Manager – Engineering Services), S de Laborde (Manager, Infrastructure Systems and Planning), B Stephens (Drainage Overseer) and Ms C Black (Council Secretary)

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

THAT the apology of B Pirie be received and sustained.

WPDD19/01

Thorp/van Eyk

CARRIED

LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WESTERN PLAINS DISTRICT DRAINAGE COMMITTEE (01-11-18) (2498486)

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Western Plains Drainage District Committee held on Thursday 01 November 2018 be taken as read and confirmed.

WPDD19/02

Johnstone/Keane

CARRIED

WRC UPDATE

Kenny Growden was in attendance and updated on current activities of WRC.

- Machine cleaning of the Maukoro Canal from Torehape Road to Racecourse Floodgate under WRC comprehensive consent has been completed, WRC can only do one area with maximum of 4 km of silt removal consent to be carried out every 4 years. Areas are area 1 from Torehape to SH2 area 2 from SH2 – 25.
- Waitakaruru Bridges – NZTA are desilting. Adrian has not received feedback on the status of this work from NZTA to date.
- Telemetry – Pouarua control gear is up and running, preliminary results are very good, with mobile control of station as well as greater benefits, like the ability to

slow pumps down when weed becomes an issue, to allow time to get to site to clear, without pumps faulting, and ability to draw water from further up drain.

Dependant on budgets and outcome of trial, WRC looking to put this on other sites in area, starting with main town pumps.

Muggeridge's Pump Project

Robert Hicks, WRC Waihou-Piako Catchment Committee Chair was in attendance and provided a general update on the project. He stated that landowners do support the project. WRC will commence construction in March this year.

Robert spoke on the general principle of the scheme and rating towards the scheme.

Kenny Growden to ask Adam Munro in the project team to put together a report explaining the implications of the Muggeridge Pump Project etc.

Pump station – trials have been undertaken.

DISTRICT DRAINAGE ACTIVITY REPORT – SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2018 AND FINANCIAL REPORT (FOR THE 6 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2018) (2498486)

The Manager, Infrastructure Systems and Planning presented the district drainage activity report covering the period September to December 2018.

RESOLVED

THAT the District Drainage Activity Report September – December 2018 and the financial report on the operations of the Western Plains District Drainage Area for the 6 months to 31 December 2018 are received.

WPDD19/03

Buckthought/Swales

CARRIED

Summary of Operational Activity

- No spraying undertaken.
- Rainfall was high in November and December.
- Indian stopbank has been maintained.
- Pumps were stopped working as it is dry Jan – Feb.
- Letter to Speedy Farms has been sent and matter is settled now.
- Pumping was high in Nov-Dec 2018
- General maintenance has been undertaken over this current dry period.

Cr Swales believed the Indian floodgate should be funded from depreciation account as opposed to capital projects account.

Adrian explained the reason for this work being taken from the capital project account and what is and what is not classified as capital works.

The members requested that this budget information be provided to all members and sent out with agenda.

Adrian presented the machine cleaning budget. 2019-20 Annual Plan budget is showing an increase. He provided explanations of machine cleaning budgets and a breakdown of expenditure.

Mangawhero Flume

Adrian responded to Ross Young's concern regarding safety effects on the public road adjoining the area of the flume. Adrian advised he will follow up with roading department to reach an understanding on what the situation is at this location.

GENERAL BUSINESS

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

P Johnstone – asked regarding Muggeridge's Pump - how is water going to be moved from the north end and where is the main drain going to be constructed. Steve de Laborde advised that it needs to follow the lowest point.

Adrian advised that once all of the Muggeridge's project construction issues have been considered, he will seek a report from WRC on all aspects of the project to answer all questions the committee has regarding the network upgrades to deliver water to the scheme. He emphasised that the high level drains will be blocked off and new drains created as it is not desirable to have high water coming into the system.

H van Eyk – queried lower end of the Maukoro Canal and asked what the obligations are for Council to undertake projects as stated in Councils Long Term Plan. Adrian explained the LTP process to the members. The lower end of the Maukoro Canal needs to be surveyed in the first instance and is programmed for construction for 2020-2021. The survey will be completed by 30 June 2019 and an options report will then be prepared for consideration.

R Young – asked what impact the Muggeridge's project will have due to its encroachment on farm land and was concerned that this will cause a reduction in farm size. Staff explained that the benefits outweigh the negatives for landowners in that they will have well performing drains which will ultimately improve the productivity of the land in the long term.

Cr Swales – re the Karito Canal and Hot Springs Canal - requested that this be cleaned this autumn. Steve advised that the physical works for both these canals is programmed for March 2019.

Cr Buckthought – supported the priority of the Karito Canal and Hot Springs Canal work as per Cr Swales comments.

The meeting closed at 12.00

CONFIRMED

B A Carter
Chairperson

7 March 2019