

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

WESTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WESTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NGATEA SERVICE CENTRE, 84 ORCHARD WEST ROAD, NGATEA ON THURSDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 10.30AM

PRESENT

B A Carter (Chairperson), B Pirie, B Keane, P A Leonard, P Johnstone, P Paterson, M Karl and Cr R Broad (alternative Councillor representative)

IN ATTENDANCE

S Clark (WRC - Works Supervisor, Paeroa Team - Integrated Catchment Management) S de Laborde (Infrastructure Systems & Planning Manager), B Stephens (Drainage Overseer) and C Black (Council Secretary)

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

THAT the apology of Cr P Buckthought, Cr R Garrett, G Laurich and R Young be received and sustained.

WPDD20/20

Keane/Paterson

CARRIED

Alternative Councillor Representative

The Committee members were advised that as Land Drainage Councillor Representatives, Cr Buckthought and Cr Garrett were unavailable to attend the meeting they had seconded Cr Ray Broad, Plains Ward member to attend as alternative councillor representative.

LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

CONFIRMATION: WESTERN PLAINS DRAINAGE DISTRICT COMMITTEE MINUTES - 01-10-20 - 2833399

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Western Plains Drainage District Committee held on Thursday, 01 October 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.

WPDD20/21

Johnstone/Keane

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters raised.

Waikato Regional Council Update – Steve Clark (Works Supervisor)

Commenced work on the Carter outlet on Maukoro road – silt coming out.

Commenced cleaning Maukoro Canal, Mangawhero pump and have taken one of the pumps out for refurbishment.

Paul Leonard pump – due to materials coming in from Australia, the liner will be available in December and so this work has been programmed for February 2021.

Commencing silage making on foreshore stopbank next week.

Structural audits start next week. Cogger dams will be de-watered and inspected in the Western area, Waiakaka South, Rawerawe, Ngarua and Leonard Davie floodgates on Pouhanga Island. Ngarua will be the first to be completed in 2 weeks' time.

The Mugeridge Pump project has received funding as one of the 'shovel ready' projects but funding is still to be signed off by Central Government.

DISTRICT DRAINAGE REPORT (SEPTEMBER 2020) - 2843302

The Infrastructure Systems & Planning Manager presented the drainage report covering the month of September 2020.

RESOLVED

THAT the Drainage Report for the month of September 2020 be received.

WPDD20/22

Pirie/Keane

CARRIED

The financial report on the operations of the Western Plains District Drainage Area for the month of September 2020 was not available.

Hopai Pump – thrust block and remedial work is needed. The two pumps will be refurbished. The Drainage overseer explained the remedial work that will be undertaken.

Pathways to the Sea WRC Lead Project – Hauraki Drought Hui

The Infrastructure Systems & Planning Manager provided the focus of project that is the development of a catchment prioritisation matrix to assist in determining the ecological and cultural values of the Waikato Regional Council pumped catchments in the Waihou and Piako river schemes. The intent is that the matrix will be aligned with the requirements of the revised-NPS Freshwater and be informed by information from WRC's pump station database, iwi, science and fisheries knowledge holders.

The following groups of participants have been identified for inclusion in developing the prioritisation matrix.

- Freshwater ecologists with particular knowledge in fisheries
- Kaitiaki
- Mātauranga māori (in relation to fish and waterways)
- Commercial fisheries representatives
- Engineers

It was noted that some participants would have knowledge and experience across more than one of these areas.

The participants who have been involved in the Hauraki Drought Hui are:

- Hauraki iwi
- Waikato Regional Council
- Tonkin + Taylor
- Vaipuhi Freshwater Consulting Limited
- Department of Conservation
- Hauraki District Council

The Hauraki Drought Hui is ongoing and staff will continue to attend the meetings to determine HDC's role in achieving the goals of providing aquatic life refuge in severe drought conditions, as were experienced last summer (2019/20).

Discussion was held regarding planting plans for the banks of waterways. Steve Clark provided an overview of the WRC strategic planting plans.

Steve de Laborde asked the Committee for their feedback on the project and whether they wished to be involved in the hui. The members considered there needed to be a presence at the hui to give a rural land drainage perspective.

RESOLVED

THAT the Land Drainage Committees perspective is presented for consideration at the Hauraki Drought hui for the Waikato Regional Council's lead project 'Pathways to the Sea', and

THAT the Land Drainage Committees be represented at the hui by the Eastern Plains Chair, Western Plains chair and HDC Land Drainage Councillor representative/s.

WPDD20/23

Paterson/Pirie

CARRIED

Frequency of Western Plains Committee Meetings

Further discussion was held regarding whether or not the Committee continue to meet monthly or reduce the meetings to bi-monthly.

RESOLVED

THAT the Western Plains District Drainage Committee hold bi-monthly meetings with the option to call a meeting if required.

WPDD20/24

Pirie/Keane

CARRIED

Maukoro Stopbank: Asset of Council – Flood Protection

The Infrastructure Systems & Planning Manager (ISPM) reported back to the committee that, as per their request at the last meeting, the Maukoro Stopbank has now been included as an asset for the WPDD-F2 area. He stated that works required to build up the bank to RL3.0m (TVD) would be submitted as an Annual Plan (AP) change next year (21-22) as it was too late to be incorporated into the LTP process.

Mike Karl raised his concern regarding water inundation from tidal action affecting his property.

The ISPM suggested that was not a common event for the sea to come over. Mr Karl said it had come over 3 times in 38 years. That anecdotal evidence suggests approximately 1:10 year return period, or 10% Annual Exceedance Probability.

Mr Karl raised an issue that because WRC raised the eastern bank of the Maukoro Canal, now, during an inundation event, twice as much water comes over the western side. The ISPM tried to explain that that is not the case, that it is sea-level, and that the same amount would come over the bank irrespective of what is on the bank on the other side of the canal. Mr Karl would not accept this. The ISMP agreed that the western side would get more water if the topping of the bank was due to rain increasing the volume of water flowing down the Maukoro Canal, but not in relation to sea-level.

After some discussion and disagreement about that, Mike Karl left the meeting at 11:43am.

Further discussion continued with the committee members in relation to the matter raised by Mike Karl and it was agreed that the work continue as an AP change.

It was noted that the landowners had the opportunity to have flood protection similar to the eastern side when the flood protection scheme was first designed for the Hauraki Plains but was declined.

GENERAL BUSINESS

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

In relation to consents to clean waterways, Steve Clark suggested HDC work with WRC on consent for cleaning major streams.

December Meeting

After discussion, it was reconsidered that the Committee convene for a meeting in December prior to the new year due to the long summer break.

The meeting closed at 12.04pm.

CONFIRMED

B A Carter
Chairperson

3 December 2020