



greater WELLINGTON
THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Report 04.530

1 September 2004

File: E/6/12/2

Report of the Meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee held in the Committee Room, Greater Wellington Regional Council, 34 Chapel Street, Masterton, on Tuesday, 31 August 2004 at 9.30 a.m.

Matters for Council decision are shown in bold type and enclosed in a box.
Other matters for information of Council only are in italic type.

Present:

Councillors Long (Chairperson), Buchanan, Kirton, McDavitt, Shields and Turver.
Messrs McQueen and Southey.

Officers Present:

S Blakemore, I Gunn (until 9.50am), W O'Donnell, L Race, D Walker.

Procedural Items

RSW 328 Apologies

Resolved

(Mr Southey/Cr Kirton)

That the apologies from Messrs Benton and Dalziell be confirmed.

RSW 329 Public Participation

Mr Joe Taylor said he attended the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee meetings on a regular basis and had been puzzled for some time as to why some issues that greatly affect the rural community were not included in the Committee's order papers. In particular, two issues that Greater Wellington staff were currently working on related to rural water sources and hazardous sites.

Cr Buchanan indicated that the issues raised would be the subject of reports to the Environment Committee and the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee in due course.

It was noted that relevant rural issues affecting the farming community will in future be reported to the Committee.

RSW 330 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Kirton)

That the public and public excluded minutes of the meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee held on 22 July 2004 (Reports 04.458 and PE 04.459) be confirmed.

Matters for Committee Decision

RSW 331 River Scheme Asset Management Plan Performance

Report 04.490

File: WO/02/20/10

Cr Buchanan stated that the exercise reinforces the value of the systems that have been put in place in terms of Asset Management Plans and the Peer Review of Wairarapa Rivers Management Assets. He congratulated staff on keeping the Wairarapa River Scheme Asset Management Plans system up to date.

Cr Turver reported that the equivalent exercise undertaken for Kapiti's River Asset Management Plans had also given a good outcome.

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Turver)

- (1) That the Asset Management Plan Performance Statements prepared for the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme; and the Waiohine-Mangatarere; Upper Ruamahanga – Mt Bruce; Upper Ruamahanga – Te Ore Ore; Upper Ruamahanga – Gladstone; Waingawa, and Waipoua River Management Schemes, be received.*
- (2) That the July 2004 Audit of River Management Asset Maintenance Standards for the Wairarapa be received.*

RSW 332 Reserve Forests Review for the Year to 30 June 2004

Report 04.505

File: WO/04/02/01

Mr McQueen expressed his concern and dissatisfaction that Soil Conservation Reserve Forests were being treated as an investment and required to return a dividend. He mentioned that this was a conflict of objectives and that a distinction between Soil Conservation Reserves and other Forests needed to be made in the forthcoming review.

Resolved

(Cr Kirton/Cr Shields)

- (1) That the report be received and the information noted.*
- (2) That the replanting of harvested areas in the winter immediately following harvesting be approved.*

RSW 333 Akura Conservation Centre Review for the Year to 30 June 2004

Report 04.499

File: WO/03/80/03

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Turver)

That the report be received and the information noted.

**RSW 334 Remission of Consent Processing Costs – Masterton District Council
Sewage Rapid Infiltration Trial**

Report 04.504

File: WP/03/06/06

Paula Pickford, Section Leader, Consents & Compliance, was present for the discussion on this item.

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Cr McDavitt)

That the Committee remit \$3,570 plus GST of the costs of processing WAR 000333 on the basis that the previously invoiced amount was not fair and reasonable.

Matters Reported for Information

RSW 335 Acting Divisional Manager’s Report

Report 04.507

File: WS/08/05/01

Dave Cameron, Regional Land Management Officer, was present for the Land & River Operations Department section of the report.

Concerning 2.3 – Storm Event 16/18 August

A series of photos of flooding and slip damage that occurred in the eastern hill country catchments and Lower Valley as a result of the above event were shown.

Members were updated on the stock loss incident by a farmer on the confluence of the Waiohine and Ruamahanga Rivers during the flood event.

Concerning the Pest Plants Section

Wayne O’Donnell reported that the application to import Endothall to control Hornwort and aquatic pest plants had stalled because of an objection lodged by Ngai Tahu. Meetings were proposed to be held with ERMA, Department of Conservation, and Ngai Tahu in an endeavour to ~~resolve~~

Concerning 3.14 –Feral Cats

Members agreed that there was a need for an education programme to widen the public's awareness of alternatives to the dumping of unwanted cats. It was noted that a strategy was proposed to be developed to better manage the adverse effects of feral and unwanted cats on native fauna at various Key Native Ecosystem management sites.

Concerning 3.23 – South East Wairarapa – Feral Pigs

Wayne O'Donnell advised that there was currently a significant issue with the releasing of feral pigs in terms of Bovine Tb with a potential for vector control work to be undermined.

A major educational programme focusing on pig hunting clubs was seen as essential.

Morning tea: 10.50 am
Resumed: 11.03 am

RSW 336 Financial Report for the Twelve Months to 30 June 2004

Report 04.506

File: WS/08/05/01

Resolved

(Cr Kirton/Cr Buchanan)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

RSW 337 Regional Council Input into District Planning

Report 04.493

File: WP/02/14/02

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Kirton)

That the information be received.

RSW 338 Resource Consents (Non Notified)

Report 04.494

File: WP/03/06/01

Resolved

(Mr McQueen/Cr Shields)

That the report be received and its contents noted.

RSW 339 Catchment Works

Report 04.484

File: WO/03/30/01

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Kirton)

That the schedule be received.

RSW 340 Questions

There were no questions.

RSW 341 General Business

Awhea-Opouawe Catchment Scheme Rates

The Chairman reported that a letter dated 26 August 2004 had been received from Mr Dan Riddiford concerning the rates on Te Awaiti Station and seeking an urgent review of the Awhea-Opouawe Catchment Scheme, given that the Station was assessed on a per hectare basis and he believed it did not receive any benefits.

Mr Gunn indicated that there was likely to be some inequities within the rating system with the Awhea-Opouawe being one such catchment scheme and there was recognition that a review was required. A meeting was to be held to discuss a proposal to undertake a review of Catchment Schemes rates.

Last Meeting of Triennium

Mr Southey extended his best wishes to both Crs Long and Buchanan at the forthcoming elections and congratulated Crs Kirton and Turver on their re-election unopposed. Mr Southey believed that more policy needed to be debated at Committee meetings. He wished to see 'public good' associated with resource consent application processing and said that Bovine Tb control had been brilliant with infected herds decreasing significantly in the region. Also, the commencement of Wairarapa's irrigation study project had been tremendous and would ultimately bring economic benefits to the region.

The Chairman thanked Committee members for their support and friendship over the triennium. Cr Long said a lot had been achieved with positive outcomes and the Committee had been well served by the officers.

Mr McQueen said that John Read was not standing for re-election for Mayoralty of South Wairarapa District Council and he wished that Mayor Read's association with Greater Wellington over a number of years be recognised. It was noted that Mayor Read had been an appointed member of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee in the 1989 triennium and again in the 1992-1995.

Resolved

(Mr McQueen/Cr Buchanan)

That a letter be forwarded to Mayor John Read extending the Committee's best wishes and appreciation for his long and valued association with Greater Wellington Regional Council.

The meeting closed at 11.35 am.

Cr F R Long
CHAIRMAN

Date:

Greater Wellington Regional Council - 28 September 2004

To be moved

That the Report of the Meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee held

on Tuesday, 31 August 2004, Items RSW 328 to RSW 341 inclusive, be adopted.