



**Report 07.438**

20 June 2007

File: E/6/12/2

**Minutes 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, 19 June 2007, at 9.30am.**

**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), Baber, Buchanan, Kirton, Turver.  
Messrs Dalziell, Read, and Southey.

**Officers Present:**

D Benham, G Dick, N Corry, J Bradbury, G Campbell, D Cameron, I Gunn (until 11.05am),  
W O'Donnell, L Race, C Robertson, T Taylor.

**Public Business**

**Procedural Items**

**RSW 189 Apology**

*Resolved*

*(Cr Turver/Mr Southey)*

*That the Committee*

*Accepts the apology for absence from Mr McQueen.*

**RSW 190      Public Participation**

There were no members of the public present who wished to participate in the meeting.

**RSW 191      Confirmation of Minutes**

*Resolved* (Cr Turver/Cr Baber)

*That the Committee*

*Confirms the public and public excluded minutes of the meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee held on 10 May 2007 (Reports 07.357 and Report PE 07.358).*

**Matter for Recommendation to Council**

**RSW 192      Didymo Long Term Management Programme**

**Report 07.381**

**File: WB/01/15/02**

*Resolved* (Cr Kirton/Cr Baber)

*That the Committee recommends to Council that it:*

- (1) Notes that there is currently no funding provision in the LTCCP for the management of the aquatic pest Didymo in the Wellington region.*
- (2) Considers new funding of \$60,000 per annum as part of the 2008/09 Annual Plan update.*
- (3) Notes that Didymo management costs for 2007/08, assuming no incursion into the region, are estimated at \$22,000 and that these costs be considered through the 2007/08 six month review.*

## **Matter for Committee Decision**

**RSW 193      Kopuaranga River Enhancement Project – Scheme Update**

**Report 07.363**

**File: WO/02/25/10**

Graeme Burnett (River Engineer) was present for the discussion on this item and gave a Powerpoint presentation update.

*Resolved*

*(Mr Southey/Mr Read)*

*That the Committee*

- (1)      Receives the report.*
- (2)      Approves the amended Kopuaranga River Enhancement Project at an estimated total cost of \$240,000.*
- (3)      Endorses the financial provision made in the 2007/08 annual plan to commence the work.*

## **Matters Reported for Information**

**RSW 194      Divisional Managers' Report**

**Report 07.355**

**File: WS/08/05/01**

**Tabled**

*Hydrological analysis of the autumn 2007 dry spell in the Wellington region* paper prepared by Laura Watts and Mike Gordon, Environmental Monitoring & Investigations Department.

**Noted**

- Members commented on the excellent information being produced by Greater Wellington in relation to weather forecasting and rainfall data.

Officers were asked to communicate this valuable information and data to ratepayers, particularly the farming community, on a regular basis to keep them in the bigger picture of likely weather patterns.

- The placement of a new crossing on the Whangaehu Stream, which was of concern to affected neighbouring landowners because of capacity and potential water flow restrictions, was raised and discussed.

Members were advised that the resource consent application would have been issued as non-notified.

- The presentation given by Ranjan Cyril, Southern Rivers Engineer, on completed flood damage repair work undertaken on the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme at the Guscott property, Hikinui Sill, and the Oporua Floodway.
- Members discussed the Wairarapa Hill Country Erosion Framework developed by MAF Policy and the need to capture this region's share of the government's \$10m budgeted funding over the next four years covering the North Island's east coast, Manawatu and Taranaki regions.

The linkage between the proposed Hill Country Liaison Group and the Committee was raised. Senior officers were to give consideration to this shortly, as part of the Council's wider committee structure review.

- John Dalziell advised that he had seen recent media articles that all Class 7 and 8 land was to be retired. Members were informed that GW officers would find out the context in which these statements were made and report back.

*Resolved*

*(Cr Turver/Cr Baber)*

*That the Committee:*

- (1) Receives the report.*
- (2) Notes the content of the report.*

The meeting was adjourned between 11.05am and 11.20am for morning tea.

**RSW 195      Broad-scale Survey of Sandy Beaches and River Estuaries along the Wairarapa Coast**

**Report 07.374**

**File: ENV/13/07/01**

Paul Denton, Policy Advisor, and Leigh Stevens, Consultant, Wriggle Coastal Management Ltd, were present for the discussion on this item.

Leigh Stevens gave a presentation on the comprehensive ecological study undertaken on the Wairarapa coastline from Owahanga Estuary in the north to Baring Head on the Wainuiomata coast. The results of the study covered four key issues encompassing climate change, coastal erosion, estuaries and water quality, and marram grass species.

**Noted**

Officers will communicate the results of the coastline study in a future edition of Elements/Rural Services newsletter, and educational packages.

*Resolved*

*(Cr Turver/Mr Read)*

*That the Committee:*

- (1)      Receives the report.*
- (2)      Notes the contents of the report.*

**RSW 196      Questions**

There were no questions.

**RSW 197      General Business**

There were no items of general business.

The meeting closed at 11.48 am.

Cr F R Long  
CHAIRMAN

Date: