

**Waikato Regional Council**

**West Coast Catchments Committee**

**OPEN MINUTES**

**Date:** Tuesday, 19 March, 2019, 10:00 am

**Location:** Council Chamber  
Waikato Regional Council  
401 Grey Street  
Hamilton East

**Members Present:** W Maag (Chair)  
M Brough (Deputy Chair)  
Cr F Lichtwark (Waikato Regional Council)  
Cr A Williams (Otorohanga District Council)  
Cr S Smith (Waitomo District Council)  
C Holland (Local Community Representative)  
T Mandeno (Local Community Representative)  
M Moss (Local Community Representative)  
J Reeves (Local Community Representative)  
K Van Houte (Local Community Representative)  
Cr S Kneebone (Joint-Chair Integrated Catchment Management Committee South)

**In Attendance:** Cr J Hayman

**Staff Present:** B Toohey (Manager, Lower Waikato/Waipā/West Coast Catchments)  
J Francis (Zone Manager, West Coast and Central Waikato)  
L Van Veen (Democracy Advisor)

**In Attendance:** Reon Verry (King Country River Care)  
Anna Nelson (King Country River Care)  
P Lynch (Waikato Regional Council, Manager Investigation and Incident Response)

## SECTION A: UNDER DELEGATION AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL

### 1. Apologies

The apologies from L Thomson (Waikato District Council), D Pilkington (Otorohanga District Council), N Hayward (Department of Conservation), S Reid (Local Community Representative), T Mahuta (ex officio) and A Livingston (ex officio) were accepted. Notice of lateness of M Moana-Tuwhangai was also accepted.

A member queried the Department of Conservation representation on the committee. J Francis advised that a Department of Conservation representative was unable to attend due to a hui being held on the same day which involved staff who would have otherwise attended in N Hayward's place. J Francis noted that the Department of Conservation have expressed a desire to meet with council staff to determine the level of representation needed across committees. Cr Kneebone undertook to liaise with Chair A Livingston and C Crickett, Director Integrated Catchment Management, to arrange a meeting between suitable parties.

W Maag (Chair) advised that Ronnie Takerei will be replacing Ray Wii as a Maniapoto Maori Trust Board representative on the committee, however Ronnie was an apology for this committee meeting.

WCC19/01

**Moved By:** M Brough

**Seconded By:** Cr F Lichtwark

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT:**

1. **The apologies of L Thomson, D Pilkington, N Hayward, S Reid, T Mahuta, A Livingston and R Takerei be accepted.**
2. **Notice of lateness of M Moana-Tuwhangai be accepted.**

**The motion was put and carried**

### 2. Confirmation of Agenda

WCC19/02

**Moved By:** Cr S Kneebone

**Seconded By:** Cr S Smith

#### **RESOLVED**

**THAT the agenda of the 19 March 2019 West Coast Catchment Committee, as circulated, be confirmed as the business for the meeting.**

**The motion was put and carried**

### 3. Disclosures of Interest

M Brough and J Reeves disclosed membership of King Country River Care. There were no further disclosures of interests noted.

Members requested the Waikato Regional Council disclosures of interests register for their review prior to attending committee meetings. Staff undertook to seek the inclusion of this information noting it did not only impact on this committee.

#### **4. Confirmation of Minutes**

##### **4.1 West Coast Catchments Committee Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the West Coast Catchments Committee dated 7 November 2018 were received and accepted as a true and accurate record, with the exception of an oversight with the spelling of Cr F Lichtwark's name.

With respect to Item 5 – Waikato Regional Pest Management Annual Report 2017/18 and Operational Plan 2018/19, a member queried about mechanisms for restricting the sale of red-eared Slider Turtle as pets. Staff undertook to provide further advice on this to the committee.

WCC19/03

**Moved By:** M Brough

**Seconded By:** T Mandeo

##### **RESOLVED**

**THAT the minutes of the West Coast Catchments Committee dated 7 November 2018 be received and approved as a true and accurate record, with the exception of an oversight with the spelling of Cr F Lichtwark's name.**

**The motion was put and carried**

#### **5. Issues and Actions from the Previous Meeting**

Presented by Zone Manager, West Coast and Central Waikato Catchments (J Francis), the report provided an update on the actions and issues raised from the previous West Coast Catchments Committee.

During questions, answers and related discussion Committee members raised or noted the following matters:

- Requested more information be included in the Zone Status Report regarding long term trends of water quality in priority catchments. Staff undertook to provide links to relevant priority catchment data, available on the council website.
- Staff advised of annual water quality monitoring results previously provided by Science and Strategy staff on an annual basis. Staff undertook to provide further advice on this to the committee.
- Members discussed the map provided in the agenda package, which showed areas planted to date. A member acknowledged the difficulty in illustrating work still to be achieved, given the level of private work undertaken by landowners. Requested data be added to the map to communicate the quantity of work achieved so far relative to that which was yet to be undertaken.

WCC19/04

**Moved By:** Cr F Lichtwark

**Seconded By:** M Brough

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the report Issues and Actions Report (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried**

Reon Verry and Anna Nelson of King Country River Care joined the meeting at 10.27am.

**6. Chairperson's Report**

The Chair (W Maag) spoke to this item. W Maag requested that the relevant sections of the most recent Integrated Catchment Management Committee minutes relating to the West Coast Catchments Committee be included in the agenda package going forward.

WCC19/05

**Moved By:** W Maag

**Seconded By:** Cr S Kneebone

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the verbal Chairperson's Report (West Coast Catchments Committee 19 March 2019) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried**

**7. West Coast Zone Status Report**

Presented by Zone Manager, West Coast and Central Waikato Catchments (J Francis), the report provided the Committee with an update on the status of the West Coast Zone activities and work programme, covering the period from 1 November 2018 to 31 January 2019.

During questions, answers and related discussion Committee members raised or noted the following matters:

- 38% of the year to date budget had been expended, noting this is to be expected given that the majority of the work is carried out during the summer months.
- The recent appointment of a Harbour Catchment Management Advisor (Tracie Dean-Speirs). Staff had been inducting her across the harbour catchment planning work carried out to date. Next step was to develop a steering group structure in order to progress the work in this space.
- Reon Verry and Anna Nelson of King Country River Care (KCRC) presented on the King Country Rivers Care's objectives, strategic goals, action plan and expectations of the Waikato Regional Council. Noted that they were an Incorporated Society which was set up by farmers in December 2013 with an aim of facilitating and promoting "on farm good practice" of sustainable land management principles. They also worked to ensure farmers were represented well in the development of relevant policy, with a particular focus being

that of the Waikato Regional Council's Proposed Plan Change 1. Refer doc# 14006946 for the presentation.

- KCRC were working on setting up an umbrella structure made up of groups representing the various catchments throughout the King Country area. They had received 50 applications to join to date, 40 of which have paid subs.
- Anna advised that KCRC have recently completed their Draft 1 Year Action Plan and were seeking feedback on this. She welcomed the committee to provide their feedback prior to the upcoming KCRC meeting.
- A member queried the ability for the KCRC to report annually on the amount of fencing along waterways undertaken by its members and also on the targeted work they undertook to control sediment, particularly along the west coast. Reon advised that the membership forms request applicants to advise on a variety of items, including the length of fencing along waterways at their property. The membership forms were being used to form the baseline information for measuring the success of KCRC related initiatives going forward.
- A member advised of the NIWA Smart Kit and recommended KCRC connect with Waikato Regional Council science staff in order to showcase to KCRC the great work they were undertaking, relevant to what KCRC were also trying to achieve.
- A member highlighted the work some community members were undertaking to rekindle land care groups and develop tools which were also relevant to what KCRC were trying to achieve.

**WCC19/06**

**Moved By:** Cr F Lichtwark

**Seconded By:** M Brough

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the presentation by Reon Verry and Anna Nelson regarding King Country River Care be received.**

**The motion was put and carried**

Patrick Lynch, Waikato Regional Council, Manager Investigation and Incident Response, joined the meeting at 10.45am.

- Patrick Lynch advised the members of the process Waikato Regional Council staff undertake to investigate and regulate incidents.
- J Francis advised members of the opportunity to submit on the Inter-regional marine pest pathway discussion document, of which submissions would close 24 May 2019.

**WCC19/07**

**Moved By:** W Maag

**Seconded By:** S Smith

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the report West Coast Zone Status Report to 31 January 2019 (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried**

**8. Update on Hill Country Erosion Fund and One Billion Tree Funding**

Report to provide the Committee with an overview on recent discussions, decisions and announcements concerning the 'Hill Country Erosion Fund' and 'One Billion Tree' funding opportunities. A member expressed that the funding should not be used to procure exotic planting.

WCC19/08

**Moved By:** W Maag

**Seconded By:** S Kneebone

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the report Update on Hill Country Erosion Fund and One Billion Tree Funding (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried**

**9. Flood Campaign Update**

Report to provide the Committee with an update on the proposed communications campaign in relation to Council's flood protection and land drainage schemes. The report was taken as read.

WCC19/09

**Moved By:** Cr F Lichtwark

**Seconded By:** Cr S Kneebone

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the report Flood Campaign Update (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried**

Meeting closed at 11.37am

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Chair