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**Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee  
OPEN MINUTES**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee held at the premises of Taupō District Council, 107 Heuheu Street, on 30 November 2018 at 11.04am.

<b>Waikato Regional Council</b>	<b>Members present:</b>	
<b>Taupō District Council</b>	Cr K Hodge	
<b>Crown Representatives</b>	Cr J Williamson	
<b>Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board</b>	S Lewis	Ministry for the Environment
	T Kingi	
	M Nepia	
	<b>In Attendance:</b>	
<b>Lake Taupō Protection Trust Trustees and Staff</b>	M Peck - Manager	
<b>Ministry for Primary Industries</b>	G Morgan – Senior Policy Analyst	
<b>Ministry for the Environment</b>	T Bennetts – Principal Analyst	
<b>Taupō District Council Staff</b>	T Wood – Policy Advisor	
<b>Waikato Regional Council Staff</b>	A McLeod – Section Manager Upper Waikato/Taupō	
	U Treblico – Principal Strategic Advisor	
	T Bio – Democracy Advisor	
<b>Public</b>	J Penton	
	J Reeve	

Chair Kingi opened the meeting with a karakia.

**Apologies**

Agenda item 1

Apologies were received from Cr White, Cr Jollands and Laura-Kate Petersen.

M Nepia moved/ Cr K Hodge seconded

**LTJC18/21 THAT the apologies of Cr White, Cr Jollands and Laura-Kate Petersen be accepted.**

**The motion was put and carried LTJC18/21**

**Confirmation of Agenda**

Agenda Item 2

S Lewis moved/M Nepia seconded

**LTJC18/22 THAT the agenda of the meeting of the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee of 30 November 2018, as circulated, be confirmed as the business for the meeting.**

**The motion was put and carried LTJC18/22**

**Disclosures of Interest**

Agenda Item 3

There were no disclosures of interest.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Agenda Item 4 Doc 13065242

Cr J Williamson moved/Cr K Hodge seconded

**LTJC18/23 RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee meeting of 17 September 2018 be received and approved as a correct record.**

**The motion was put and carried LTJC18/23**

**Review of Regional Plan section 3.10: Lake Taupō Catchment**

(Agenda item 5) Doc 13407816

Principal Strategic Advisor (U Treblico) provided a powerpoint presentation (Doc # 13451852) to support the report which updated the Committee on the review of the Regional Plan section 3.10: Lake Taupō Catchment, and on a science workshop to support the review.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- The Committee understood that once the Overseer version noted within the Taupō Waters section of the Regional Plan expired, it could not be used again. This gave strong direction on where Committee would need to be in the future.
- Staff took the Committee through the breakdown of issues resulting from inadequate on-site domestic sewage systems. It was noted that existing systems had been in place for a long time. There had been work undertaken in Hatape which identified that there were traces of nitrogen but at a low level. If a change of sewage systems was required, it would be extremely expensive. At this stage staff could find no scientific justification for a change. What was required was a management system in place in terms of inspection. There had been previous attempts at conducting inspections but these had been ineffective. Staff thought that implementation of a new inspection management system should be explored.
- Staff noted that the effects of inadequate on-site wastewater systems triggered a health issue rather than a nitrogen management issue.

M Nepia out of meeting at 11.32am.

- Staff explained they would be notifying an intention to review the Regional Plan (in part) before 20 December 2018, in that they would need to notify the new version with the new rules prior to the expiration of the current overseer version. The rest of the plan would be notified for review at a later date.
- A member asked what the implication for Taupō District Council would be in terms of the Regional Plan review. Staff responded that there are no specific implications foreseen at this stage, but encouraged joint participation with the Taupō District Council in order to get the best rules possible.
- A member noted their concern about the future for the ratepayers. The member elaborated that if there were any signs that the science produced inaccurate data then the time to act was now. Staff assured the Committee that the science was reliable based on the best methods to hand.
- A member noted the need for dialogue with the public so that they're kept informed. Members also noted pathogens are the main things to keep an eye on in the disposal system.
- Lake Taupō Protection Trust Manager M Peck addressed the Committee. It was noted that there was a vehicle in place via the Trust's communications plan which would be used as a tool to communicate with the public. It was also noted that the Lake Taupō Protection Trust received a request from Waikato Regional Council seeking \$25,000 to fund a research project to determine the impact of the cap on farmers. Waikato Regional Council advised the Lake Taupō Protection Trust that they have the funding available to undertake the research. The Trust was in general support of the research having an interest in the Catchment. However, the requirements for funds did not align with the Trust's research criteria which was relevant in terms of spending trust funds. The Trust deferred this decision and requested guidance from Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee as an exception from the criteria.
- Staff advised the need to think about purposes for which money was collected. One of the very clear statements made in setting up the public

fund was that could not be applied to business as usual for any of the agencies associated with the project. The question therefore, was whether the Committee felt there was some wider benefit in recommending to partners and seeking their views on whether it would be an appropriate use of funds given the earlier position. It was suggested that this matter could come back to the Committee as a formal item.

M Nepia in 11.54am

- The Crown saw benefit and also a dilemma in the lack of fit with the funding criteria. Staff would need to look at required approvals and whether a recommendation would be put to all partners.
- The Committee noted the request had not gone to Taupō District Council. The Waikato Regional Council could fund this itself but it would be useful to establish if there were research funds available. Staff stated that it was intended that the research would be completed between February and April 2019 with a total funding requirement of \$50,000.
- Staff noted that retrospectively, the Committee could fund this research should that be necessary. Partners who funded this would be acknowledged in the research report. This would indicate partner support. Staff suggested that the Trust could assist with the provision of a formal item for inclusion in the next Committee agenda for the March 2019 Committee meeting. The Crown noted it would be good to know what we would be trading this for – for instance, what would the Committee be missing out on if they were to fund this. The Trust was uncertain how much funding this would require to cover costs until June 2021 so financial planning would need to include adequate margins.
- The Committee would like to see more information on this including the risks and benefits inherent in the provision of funding.
- Waikato Regional Council staff will draft a report for the March meeting. The Trust will provide more information regarding its future funding requirements and the Official Working Party will draw up an appropriate recommendation to the Committee for the Lake Taupō Protection Project Joint Committee meeting in March 2019.

Cr K Hodge moved/Cr J Williamson seconded

LTJC18/24

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the report 'Review of Regional Plan section 3.10: Lake Taupō Catchment' Doc # 13407816 dated 21 November 2018) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried LTJC18/24**

**Resolution to Exclude the Public**

Agenda item 6

Cr K Hodge moved/M Nepia seconded

LTJC18/25

**THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the meeting:**

	<p><b>The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:</b></p>	
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	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
7	Public Excluded minutes – Lake Taupo Protection Project Joint Committee meeting 17 September 2018	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7.	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)
8	Update on monitoring of LTPT Nitrogen reduction agreements – remedial planting requirements.	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7.	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on sections 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 7 of that Act, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Item No	Interest
8	Protect the privacy of natural person including that of deceased natural persons (Section 7(2)(a))
7	Maintain legal professional privilege (Section 7(2)(g))
7	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) (Section 7(2)(i))

**The motion was put and carried LTJC18/25**

Meeting closed at: 12.15pm.  
Doc 13470686