

**NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Environmental Management Committee Meeting
held in the Council Chamber,
Northland Regional Council, 36 Water Street, Whāngārei, on
Monday 25 August 2014, commencing at 9.30 am

Present:

Northland Regional Council

Cr Joe Carr (Chairman)
Cr Bill Shepherd (ex officio)
Cr Paul Dimery
Cr Dennis Bowman

Kaipara District Council

Commissioner Richard Booth

Whangarei District Council

Cr Tricia Cutforth

Department of Conservation

Ms Sue Reed-Thomas

Farming Community

Mr Alan Clarkson

Forest Industry

Mr Geoff Gover

Māori Interests

Mr Keir Volkerling

In Attendance:

Helen Moodie (DairyNZ)
Ngaire Tyson (NZ Landcare Trust) (part)

NRC Staff:

Chief Executive Officer
Operations Director
Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager
Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager
Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager
Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager (part)
Policy Programme Manager (part)
Policy Specialists (part)
Senior Land Management Officer (part)
Policy Analysts (part)
Biosecurity Officer (part)
Committee Secretary

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 9.33 am.

Apologies

Moved (Bowman/Dimery)

That the apologies for non-attendance from Cr Ann Court (FNDC) and Cr Craig Brown be received.

Carried

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest made at any stage of the meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes: Environmental Management Committee Meeting 23 June 2014 (Item 1.0)

**Report from Peternel McLean, Committee Secretary, dated 5 August 2014.
A666363**

Moved (Dimery/Clarkson)

That the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 23 June 2014 be confirmed.

Carried

Matters arising from 1.0:

- **Whangarei Falls pathogen testing:** Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager reported that two more rounds of sampling were to be undertaken prior to assessing the results. The Northland DHB had not offered any funding in this regard.
- **Agenda format:** The Chairman advised his wish for the committee to have a greater input into agenda compilation and proposed that the committee discuss this at the end of the meeting, where members would be given the opportunity to raise topics for possible inclusion in future agendas.

Environmental Interest Groups Representative on Environmental Management Committee (Item 2.0)

**Report from Peternel McLean, Committee Secretary, dated 5 August 2014.
A666387**

Moved (Gover/Dimery)

That the report Environmental Interest Groups Representative on Environmental Management Committee from Peternel McLean, Committee Secretary, dated 5 August 2014, be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 2.0:

The calling for nominations, shortlisting and selection process had been tasked by Northland Regional Council to Committee Chair Joe Carr and Council Chair Bill Shepherd to determine. One further interview was scheduled, after which final selection for the position of Environmental Interest Groups representative on the committee would be made.

Waioira Northland Water Progress (Item 3.0)

**Report from Natalie Glover, Water Policy Specialist, dated 8 August 2014.
A663497**

Moved (Bowman/Clarkson)

1. That the report Waioira Northland Water Progress by Natalie Glover, Water Policy Specialist, and dated 8 August 2014, be received.
2. That Cr Paul Dimery formally replace Cr David Sinclair as the Councillor representative on the Whāngārei Harbour Catchment Group.
3. That Chris Frost be appointed as horticultural representative on the Mangere Catchment Group.
4. That Marty Robinson be appointed as Community Board Representative on the Waitangi Catchment Group.
5. That Peter Bullen and his alternate Tiwha Everitt be appointed as additional forestry industry representatives on Poutō Catchment Group.

Carried

Matters arising from 3.0:

Sediment concerns: The Chairman noted that as a result of the recent storm, significant scouring had occurred in several rivers in the Far North, notably the Waitangi River above Puketona Junction. The Chairman considered the scale of the problem was large and needed to be the subject of a report coming back to the committee.

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 (Item 4.0)

**Report from Justin Murfitt, Senior Programme Manager (Resource Management) and Ben Tait, Policy Analyst, dated 12 August 2014.
A667229**

Moved (Dimery/Shepherd)

That the report National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 by Justin Murfitt, Senior Programme Manager (Resource Management) and Ben Tait, Policy Analyst, and dated 12 August 2014, be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 4.0:

Water quality data: Considerable discussion focused on the setting of bottom lines regionally as well as factors that impacted negatively on water quality such as the recent storm event. Many of these issues are currently being considered by the catchment groups and through the regional plan review.

Community Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharges – Current Compliance Status (updated) (Item 5.0)

Report from Tess Dacre, Monitoring Programme Manager – Water and Wastes, dated 13 August 2014.

A628807

Moved (Gover/Clarkson)

That the report Community Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharges – Current Compliance Status (updated) from Tess Dacre, Monitoring Programme Manager – Water and Wastes, dated 13 August 2014, be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 5.0:

Cr Dimery requested reporting to include clear timeframes for compliance action. NRC staff would endeavour to work with FNDC to establish realistic programmes working towards full compliance for the various wastewater plants.

Dairy Industry Liaison Group Update (Item 7.0)

Report from Tony Phipps, Operations Director, dated 12 August 2014.

A649546

Moved (Dimery/Volkerling)

That the report Dairy Industry Liaison Group Update by Tony Phipps, Operations Director, and dated 12 August 2014, be received.

Carried

Ballance Farm Environment Awards - 2014 Update (Item 8.0)

Report from Debbie Johnson, Senior Land Management Advisor, dated 12 August 2014.

A667789

Moved (Carr/Clarkson)

1. That the Ballance Farm Environment Awards – 2014 Update by Debbie Johnson, Senior Land Management Advisor, dated 12 August 2014, be received.
2. That the committee recommends to the council that it provides continued support for the Ballance Farm Environment Awards in its draft Long Term Plan.

Carried

Environment Fund Report for the 2014/15 Financial Year to Date (Item 9.0)

Report from Dean Evans, Land Programme Manager, dated 1 August 2014. A663722

Moved (Clarkson/Carr)

1. That the report Environment Fund Report for the 2014/15 Financial Year to Date by Dean Evans, Land Programme Manager, and dated 1 August 2014, including:
 - That a total of \$58,884 for the 2014/15 financial year first delegated authority consisting of 19 projects; and
 - That a total of \$166,083.25 for the 2014/15 financial year 2nd delegated authority consisting of 45 projects; be received.

Carried

It was further moved (Gover/Booth)

2. That the committee recommends to council that an additional \$17,550 is made available from the Land Management Reserve to fund the cost of Biosecurity Fund pest control applications in excess of the current budget.

Carried

It was further moved following amendment (Cutforth/Volkerling)

3. That the application for the Portland Farms Fencing Project is approved to the value of **\$7,000**.

It was further moved (Clarkson/Gover)

4. That the application for the Sunvalley Livestock Fencing Project is approved for the amount of **\$9,900**.

Carried

It was further moved (Shepherd/Clarkson)

5. That the application for the Dung Beetle Release Project is not approved.

Carried

Matters arising from 9.0:

- **Dung Beetle Release Project:** It was advised that a current application for this project was before the DairyNZ for funding. The committee advised that should this application not be successful, then the Northland Regional Council could be approached to decide whether any funds could be made available for the project.

- **E-Fund Criteria:** Staff were requested to consider and report back on options for criteria where large scale properties were applying for funding in excess of the current funding cap criteria. A further request was made to provide a broader report to include funding trends.

Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies -Review of the Proposed Timeline (Item 10)

Report by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, dated 11 August 2014.

A667504

Moved (Shepherd/Cutforth)

1. That the report Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies – Review of the Proposed Timeline by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, and dated 11 August 2014, be received.
2. That the committee agree to the revised timing for formal notification of the Regional Pest Management Plan, from January 2015 to July 2015.

Carried

Biosecurity Responses Update (Item 11.0)

Report from Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, dated 11 August 2014.

A667899

Moved (Dimery/Bowman)

That the report Biosecurity Responses Update by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, and dated 11 August 2014, be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 11.0:

Pipi Stock Decline – Mair Bank: The committee was advised that a decision on the closure of Mair Bank was expected shortly and that this would be notified via the Ministry of Primary Industries website.

River Management Update (Item 12.0)

Report from Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager, dated 13 August 2014.

A668238

Moved (Shepherd/Reed-Thomas)

1. That the report - Rivers Management Update by Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager, dated 13 August 2014, be received.
2. That the minutes of the following liaison committee meetings be received:
 - a. Ruakaka River Liaison Committee, 23 July 2014
 - b. Awanui River Liaison Committee, 1 August 2014
 - c. Kaihu River Liaison Committee, 5 August 2014
 - d. Waitangi River Liaison Committee, 6 August 2014
 - e. Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee, 6 August 2014
 - f. Kaeo River Whangaroa Catchment Liaison Committee, 12 August 2014.

Carried

Environmental Monitoring for Period 1 – 31 July 2014

(Item 13.0)

Report by Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager, dated 11 August 2014.

A667256

Moved (Clarkson/Dimery)

That the report Environmental Monitoring for the Period 1 – 31 July 2014 from Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager, dated 11 August 2014, be received.

Carried

Kiwi Coast – Reconnecting Northland (Item 14.0)

Report by Tony Phipps, Operations Director, dated 12 August 2014.

A667495

Moved (Volkerling/Gover)

1. That the report Kiwi Coast – Reconnecting Northland by Tony Phipps, Operations Director, dated 12 August 2014, be received.
2. That the presentation provided by Ngaire Tyson on Kiwi Coast be received, and that thanks be given.

Carried

Severe Weather Event – 8-12 July 2014 (Item 15.0)

Report by Dale Hansen, Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager, dated 14 August 2014.

A668769

Moved (Clarkson/Bowman)

That the report Severe Weather Event – 8-12 July 2014 by Dale Hansen, Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager, and dated 14 August 2014, be received.

Carried

Matters arising:

“Go Slow” disease: A future agenda item to be brought to the committee on this disease manifesting in pig dogs was requested by Alan Clarkson, and there was agreement to work with staff in this regard.

Conclusion

The meeting closed at 12.36 pm.