

**Minutes of the Policy and Planning
Committee Meeting of the Taranaki
Regional Council, held in the Taranaki
Regional Council Chambers, 47 Cloten
Road, Stratford, on Thursday 15 October
2009 at 10.30 am.**

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Present | Councillors | M J Cloke | (Deputy Chairperson) |
| | | M G Davey P D Horton M P Joyce | |
| | | D N MacLeod | (ex officio) |
| Representatives | Councillor | J Rowe | (Stratford District Council) |
| | Councillor | M Betts | (New Plymouth District Council) |
| | Mr | G Hight | (Federated Farmers of New Zealand) |
| In attendance | Messrs | B G Chamberlain | (Chief Executive) |
| | | A D McLay | (Director-Resource Management) |
| | | R A Phillips | (Director-Operations) |
| | | G K Bedford | (Director-Environment Quality) |
| | | M J Nield | (Director-Corporate Services) |
| | | G C Severinsen | (Policy Manager) |
| | Mrs | K van Gameren | (Committee Administrator) |
| | Ms | R Miller | (Policy Analyst) |
| Ms | S Dean | (Biodiversity Officer) | |
| Mr | J Clough | (Wrightson Consulting) | |
| | | One Member of the media. | |

Apologies The apologies from Councillor M A Irving, Councillor D L Lean, Councillor N W Walker and Councillor A Hickey (South Taranaki District Council) were received and sustained.

**Notification of
Late Item**

Item 4 - Ministry for the Environment – information sheet ‘Land and Water Forum Project – A Fresh Look at Fresh Water Terms of Reference’.

General Business – Lower Waitara River Local Purpose Reserve Management Plan notice of intention to hear submissions.

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes**
Policy and Planning Committee
3 September 2009

Resolved

THAT the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council

1. takes as read and confirms the minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council Chambers, Cloten Road, Stratford, on Thursday 3 September 2009 at 10.30 am
2. notes the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 22 September 2009.

09/241

Horton/Joyce

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Review of the Emissions Trading Scheme

- 2.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director-Environment Quality, spoke to the memorandum advising the Committee of the release of the findings of the Emissions Trading Scheme Review Committee. The report entitled 'Review of the Emissions Trading Scheme and related matters' was presented to the House of Representatives on 31 August 2009. Since the release of the review report, amending legislation (The Climate Change response [Moderated Emissions Trading] Amendment Bill) has been introduced in Parliament, subject to further amendment during its passage. The Government has signalled its intention to pass the Amendment Bill by December 2009, coinciding with global negotiations on a post-Kyoto agreement. Mr Bedford spoke of the main content of the Review and Amendment Bill.
- 2.2 Members discussed the implications of the Review and Amendment Bill. It was noted that the Council's long-established land management programme (riparian management, hill-country programmes etc) are excluded from receiving carbon credits by landowners who have invested in the programme on their properties. It was agreed that the Council advocate for opportunities to benefit landowners with land management programmes through the submission process for the legislation.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives this memorandum noting the release of the 'Review of the Emissions Trading Scheme and related matters' by the Emissions Trading Scheme Review Committee, and the contents of draft amending legislation
2. notes its discussion of the contents of the review and the Government's proposals for draft legislation

3. agrees to advocate for land owner opportunities arising out of the Council's Land Management programme and the Emissions Trading Scheme.

09/242

Joyce/MacLeod

3. Submission on model permit conditions for vertebrate toxic agents

- 3.1 Mr R A Phillips, Director-Operations, spoke to the memorandum presenting a submission for endorsement of the Committee on the Ministry of Health's discussion document 'Model Permit Conditions for Vertebrate Toxic Agents and Guidelines for their Modification'. The submission was sent by the due date of 18 September 2009.
- 3.2 The Council's submission supported the Ministry of Health developing model permit conditions relating to the use of vertebrate toxic agents and also identified some issues of concern in relation to sustained community pest programmes whereby a separate but complementary system with model conditions is suggested.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum and submission on the discussion document *Model Permit Conditions for Vertebrate Toxic Agents and Guidelines for Their Modification*
2. endorses the submission.

09/243

Davey/Betts

4. Update on Land and Water Forum Project

- 4.1 Mr G C Severinsen, Policy Manager, spoke to the memorandum (and tabled information sheet from the Ministry for the Environment) updating Members on the Government's Land and Water Forum Project and identifying possible implications for the land and water management activities of the Council.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum Update on Land and Water Forum Project.

09/244

MacLeod/Rowe

5. Annual Report on the Dairying and Clean Streams Accord 2008/2009

- 5.1 The Committee received and discussed the memorandum introducing the Taranaki Regional Council's Draft Annual Report on the Dairying and Clean Streams Accord (the Accord) 2008/2009.

- 5.2 Members noted that an issue that continues to exist is the relatively slow pace of property plan implementation. Whilst the target for 2010 has been met, it is largely due to existing fencing and planting carried out pre-Accord. If plan implementation continues at its current rate the implementation target for 2015 will not be met. The Council has continued to make adjustments to its approach to promote wider and faster implementation. However, if the 2015 implementation target is to be met, other Accord partners and ultimately dairy farmers will need to apply more effort to physical works.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum *Annual Report on the Dairying and Clean Streams Accord 2008/2009*
2. notes most targets in the Regional Action Plan have been met or are on track to be met
3. notes the current rate of riparian fencing and planting will be insufficient to meet the 2015 target
4. adopts the Taranaki Regional Council's Dairying and Clean Streams Accord Annual Report 2008/2009.

09/245

Betts/Davey

6. Trends in the quality of the surface water of Taranaki

- 6.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director-Environment Quality, spoke to the memorandum providing updated information to the Committee on trends in the quality of surface water in Taranaki as measured at three regional sites within the National River Water Quality Network – being lower Waingongoro River at State Highway 45, Manganui River at State Highway 3 and Waitara River at Bertrand Road Bridge.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives this memorandum providing updated information on trends in the quality of the surface water of Taranaki, as measured at three NRWQN sites
2. notes that the analysis of trends at three long-term monitoring sites indicates positive outcomes for surface water quality management interventions in Taranaki, including that nutrient levels have been stable
3. notes that this outcome is consistent with the stated policies and expectations of the Council and regional community.

09/246

Horton/MacLeod

7. Riparian Management in Taranaki – A success for Native Biodiversity

- 7.1 Ms S Dean, Scientific Officer, provided a powerpoint presentation in support of the memorandum presenting Members with a summary of the main findings and conclusions from Susanne Krejcek's recently completed thesis entitled 'Riparian Management in Taranaki – A Success for Native Biodiversity'. Ms Krejcek was a Masters student from the Carl von Ossietzky University, Oldenburg, Germany that worked with the Council on the project.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives this memorandum on the completion of a thesis entitled "*Riparian Management in Taranaki – A Success for Native Biodiversity?*"
2. notes the findings and conclusions of this study, that riparian planting increases natural biodiversity
3. supports future studies and investigation in this area.

09/247

Davey/Horton

8. Pasture renewal and intermediate cropping trial - Waimate West

- 8.1 The memorandum providing an update on results and findings of a trial underway at the Waimate West Demonstration Farm (supported by the Council as a consortium partner) into the short and long-term effects of pasture renewal that includes intermediate fodder cropping stages was received and discussed by the Committee.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum discussing the progress report (year 2) for the trial exploring the impacts of cropping
2. notes the findings of the report as presented and discussed.

09/248

Rowe/Betts

9. Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Regional Coastal Plan

- 9.1 Ms R Miller, Policy Analyst, provided a powerpoint presentation in support of the memorandum introducing the report entitled 'Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Regional Coastal Plan for Taranaki' and to recommend its circulation to stakeholders. The Council's Regional Coastal Plan (the Plan) has been operative for ten years and a full review of the provisions of the Plan is required to be commenced under the Resource Management Act.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives this memorandum and attached report entitled '*Effectiveness and efficiency of the Regional Coastal Plan for Taranaki*'
2. agrees to circulate to key stakeholders the '*Effectiveness and efficiency of the Regional Coastal Plan for Taranaki*' for their information
3. notes that the report will be used as the basis for initiating further consultation with tangata whenua and coastal stakeholders.

09/249

MacLeod/Horton

Model Standing Orders NZS9202:2003 (incorporating Amendment No.1) 3.12.1
Procedural motion to terminate or adjourn debate

Resolved

THAT the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council

1. adjourns the Policy and Planning Committee meeting at 12.05 pm.

09/250

Cloke/Irving

The Policy and Planning Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council reconvened at 12.45 pm with all present. Absent was Mr G K Bedford, Director-Environment Quality, Ms S Dean, Biodiversity Officer and one member of the media.

10. Review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the Soil Plan

- 10.1 Mr G C Severinsen, Policy Manager, spoke to the memorandum updating Members on the interim review of the Regional Soil Plan for Taranaki.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum
2. notes that no submissions were received from stakeholders on the '*Effectiveness and efficiency of the Regional Soil Plan for Taranaki*'
3. notes that Council has satisfied the section 35 requirements of the Resource Management Act to undertake a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the *Regional Soil Plan for Taranaki* and that there are no issues requiring an immediate review of that Plan.

09/251

Rowe/Hight

12. Submission to add Tikorangi Pa to Schedule in New Plymouth

- 12.1 Mr A D McLay, Director-Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum introducing a submission for endorsement made to the New Plymouth District Council supporting the inclusion of Tikorangi Pa in Schedule 26.1: Waahi Tapu and Archaeological Sites of the New Plymouth District Plan. The submission was sent by the due date of 9 September 2009.
- 12.2 The Council's submission supported the proposed plan change.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum *Submission to add Tikorangi Pa to Schedule in New Plymouth District Plan*
2. endorses the submission.

09/252

MacLeod/Joyce

11. Future of Pest Management Project

- 11.1 Mr B G Chamberlain, Chief Executive, spoke to the memorandum briefing Members on the 'Future Pest Management Project'.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum and attachments
2. notes the Future Pest Management Project will be used to inform and develop a tested and refined framework for improving the pest management system for the next 25 years
3. notes that officers of the Taranaki Regional Council are contributing to the Future Pest Management Project.

09/253

Horton/MacLeod

13. General Business

Lower Waitara River Local Purpose Reserve Management Plan

Mr A D McLay, Director-Resource Management, advised Members that the Policy and Planning Committee would hear public submissions on the draft Lower Waitara

River Local Purpose Reserve Management Plan at their next meeting scheduled for Thursday 19 November 2009.

There being no further business, the Committee Deputy Chairman Councillor M J Cloke, declared the Policy and Planning Committee meeting closed at 12.55 am.

Confirmed

Chairman: _____
N W Walker

Date: **19 November 2009**