

**Report 07.538**

3 August 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 Thursday, 2 August 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.  
Messrs Dalziell, McQueen, Read, and Southey.

**Officers Present:**

D Benham, B Turfrey, G Dick, N Corry, M Kennedy, B Sangster, G Campbell, D Cameron, I Gunn, W O'Donnell, L Race, M Longworth, C Robertson, T Taylor.

**Public Business**

**Procedural Items**

**RSW 198      Apology**

*Resolved*

*(Cr Baber/Mr Read)*

*That the Committee*

*Accepts the apology for absence from Cr Turver.*

**RSW 199      Public Participation**

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

**RSW 200      Confirmation of Minutes**

*Resolved* (Mr Southey/Cr Baber)

*That the Committee*

*Confirms the minutes of the meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee held on 19 June 2007 (Report 07.438).*

**Matters Reported for Information**

**RSW 201      Bovine Tb Vector Control – Annual Report**

**Report 07.488**

**File: WB/03/01/15**

*Resolved* (Cr Buchanan/Mr Dalziell)

*That the Committee:*

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

**RSW 202      Divisional Managers' Report**

**Report 07.475**

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

**Noted**

- Environment Waikato has now formally resolved to accept the transfer of functions under the Building Act 2004 and to seek full accreditation for processing dam consents. The Committee will be kept updated on the proposed transfer agreement process.

Mr Dalziell said that Wairarapa Federated Farmers had forwarded a survey asking its members to submit their views on the issue of the transferring of activities from one council to another. He was unsure as to how the farming community could make comment on the proposal without fully understanding the issues involved. Further communication with the region's ratepayers on this matter was required.

Mr Southey indicated that a letter from Environment Canterbury had also been forwarded to the Wairarapa rural community concerning the transferring of activities relating to building consents for dams.

It was noted that building consents would only be required for one to two large dams per year in the region. Consents were only required for dams holding more than 20,000 cubic metres and with a greater than 3 metre high face.

Officers were asked that explanatory information on these issues be incorporated in a forthcoming Rural Services newsletter.

- Submissions to the Masterton Wastewater Plant upgrade closed on 1<sup>st</sup> August with 55 submissions having been received to the application.
- Progress was being made with the Benton appeal where an application to take groundwater from the Kahutara aquifer was declined. It was noted that there was agreement in principle to a consent order by the affected parties but there were no signatories at this time.

Members were advised that proposed changes to the Freshwater Plan (Plan Change 3) would supersede the current moratoriums on some aquifers.

- A very successful three day NZ Biosecurity Institute Conference organised by the Greater Wellington Regional Council staff had recently been held in Wellington with 220 delegates attending from all biosecurity agencies throughout NZ. Councillors Laidlaw and Long gave presentations to the conference.

*Resolved*

*(Cr Baber/Mr Dalziell)*

*That the Committee:*

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

The meeting was adjourned between 10.50am and 11.04am for morning tea.

**RSW 203      Questions**

- (1) Mr Southey asked for an update on the proposed Committee structure for the new triennium.

Members were advised that a report was to be considered by the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee on 14 August.

It was agreed that the report would be circulated to the appointed members prior to the August meeting.

- (2) Mr Dalziell asked that the Divisional Managers' report to the Committee also briefly covers other activities of Council, for example transport, to assist appointed members to be fully conversant with the significant issues and activities that Greater Wellington is involved with across the region.

Officers were asked to action this request commencing at the September meeting.

**RSW 204      General Business**

Mr Read raised the issue of the Wellington Regional Strategy uniform annual charge and queried the significant difference between the rating of urban and rural land.

Officers explained the reasons for the difference in the annual charge.

**RSW 205      Exclusion of the Public**

**Report 07.490**

**File: E/06/12/01**

*Resolved*

*(Cr Kirton/Cr Baber)*

*That the Committee*

*Exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:*

*BioWorks – the Options*

*The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons 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><i>General subject of each matter to be considered:</i></b>	<b><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each</i></b>	<b><i>Ground under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></b>
<i>BioWorks – the Options</i>	<p><i>Release of the report would disadvantage the Council in its negotiations with the Animal Health Board over vector control work undertaken by the BioWorks business unit. The Council has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice.</i></p> <p><i>Release of information included in the report would also prejudice the privacy of employees of Greater Wellington by disclosing details relating to their employment. Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the privacy of Greater Wellington’s employees.</i></p>	<p><i>That the public conduct of the whole or 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 would exist under sections 7(2)(a) and 7(2)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (i.e to protect the privacy of natural persons and to enable Greater Wellington to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations).</i></p>

*This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as specified above.*

The meeting closed at 11.18am.

Cr F R Long  
CHAIRMAN

Date: