



Report 04.85

4 February 2004

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 Tuesday,
3 February 2004 at 9.30 a.m.**

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), Buchanan, Kirton, Shields and Turver.
Messrs Benton, Dalziell, McQueen and Southey.

Officers Present:

S Blakemore, S Forbes, I Gunn, W O'Donnell, L Race, C Wright.

Procedural Items

RSW 262 Apologies

Resolved

(Mr McQueen/Cr Turver)

*That the apology from Cr McDavitt, and Cr Shields for lateness,
be confirmed.*

RSW 263 Public Participation

Mr Joe Taylor, Federated Farmers (Wairarapa) Inc

The Chairperson advised that Mr Joe Taylor wished to speak on the matter of increased numbers of Canadian Geese previously raised at the September Committee meeting. Mr Taylor said that Wellington Acclimatisation Society notes from 1979 had indicated that the Society had accepted full responsibility for the control of Canadian Geese in the Wairarapa and the rest of the Wellington district.

Members had noted that Canadian Geese were not classified as a pest within the Regional Pest Management Strategy and their control came under the jurisdiction of the management agencies Fish and Game, and the Department of Conservation.

Cr Shields arrived at 9.44 am.

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Kirton)

That a letter be forwarded to the management agencies expressing the Committee's concerns at the significant problem which will be created if Canadian Geese are not controlled and the consequent costs to the community and ratepayers.

RSW 264 Confirmation of Minutes

Matters Arising

Concerning RSW 252 – Juken Nissho Ltd, Use of Alternative 1080 Application Methods

Mr O'Donnell updated members on future possum control operations on Juken Nissho Ltd land and reported that further correspondence had been received from JNL stating their position with the use of 1080 in its plantations.

A meeting with Juken Nissho Ltd, the Committee Chairperson and officers, to discuss and clarify the situation would be held as soon as possible.

Resolved

(Cr Kirton/Mr McQueen)

That the minutes of the meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee held on 11 November 2003 (Report 03.706) be confirmed.

Matter for Recommendation to Council

RSW 265 Water Allocation Plan for the Mangatarere Catchment

Report 04.29

File: WP/02/13/01

Siobhan McDonnell and Graham Sevicke-Jones were present for the discussion on this item.

Members thanked officers for their input and commended them on the excellent work achieved throughout the overall process.

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Turver)

That the Water Allocation Plan for the Mangatarere Catchment be incorporated in the Regional Freshwater Plan.

Matters for Committee Decision

RSW 266 Objection to Orui Consent Charges

Report 04.31

File: WP/03/06/05

It was agreed that the Sub-Committee would meet at the conclusion of the Committee meeting.

Resolved

(Cr Kirton/Cr Shields)

(1) That the matter be referred to a Sub-Committee with delegated authority to determine the objection.

(2) That the Sub-Committee comprise the Committee Chairperson and Messrs McQueen and Benton.

Cr Buchanan and Mr Southey did not vote on this item.

Matters Reported for Information

RSW 267 Divisional Manager's Report

Report 04.18

File: WS/08/05/01

Mr Wright introduced Scott Forbes, the new Manager for the Bovine Tb Business Unit, to Committee members.

Members discussed the structure of the newly formed Bovine Business Unit.

Mr Dalziell referred to a recent article in Straight Furrow regarding the Auditor-General's Office investigation of some regional councils funding in its role as Tb vector managers. He believed that there was a perception and element of fact behind such articles and there needed to be transparencies in place.

Cr Kirton left the meeting at 10.48 am.

Morning tea: 10.48 am
Resumed: 11.05 am

Resolved

(Mr Dalziell/Mr Benton)

That the report be received and its contents noted.

Regional Pest Management Strategy

The Committee considered a tabled letter from the Hon Chris Carter, Minister of Conservation, extending his congratulations and appreciation to Council for the progress being achieved with regional pest control activities.

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Shields)

That a letter of thanks be forwarded to the Hon Chris Carter in response to the compliments on the progress achieved with pest control activities.

RSW 268 Financial Report for the Six Months to December 2003

Report 04.30

File: WS/08/05/01

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Shields)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

**RSW 269 Changes to Proposed Bovine Tb Vector Control Programme –
2004/05 Year**

Report 04.27

File: WB/03/01/15

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Mr Southey)

- (1) That the Committee notes the information contained in the report, and in particular the effects should the region not achieve the 2013 Bovine Tb targets under the National Pest Management Strategy, such as the Council having to continue funding the programme at the current level for a longer period of time.*
- (2) That the Committee looks favourably at the proposed enhancement of the programme, and that the above points be considered in the Council's overall budget.*

Cr Turver left the meeting at 11.55 am.

RSW 270 Annual Environment Report Cards

Report 04.13

File: WP/04/04/01

Graham Sevicke-Jones was present for the discussion on this item.

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Shields)

That the report be received and its contents noted.

RSW 271 Regional Council Input Into District Planning

Report 04.17

File: WP/02/14/02

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Cr Buchanan)

That the information be received.

RSW 272 Resource Consents (Non Notified)

Report 04.16

File: WP/03/06/01

Resolved

(Mr Benton/Cr Shields)

That the report be received and its contents noted.

RSW 273 Catchment Works

Report 04.10

File: WO/03/30/01

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Mr Southey)

That the schedule be received.

RSW 274 Questions

There were no questions.

RSW 275 General Business

Resource Consent Charging Costs

Mr Southey commented on the public good aspect associated with processing resource consents and the costs to applicants.

Mr Blakemore noted that customer service surveys indicated a high level of satisfaction overall. A recent Ministry for the Environment survey had indicated that Greater Wellington Regional Council resource consents costs were the lowest in the country.

Rural Services Newsletter

Mr Dalziell complimented officers on the recent rural services newsletter forwarded to rural landowners. He commented that further value could be added to future newsletters by profiling GWRC Biosecurity and Bovine staff to assist farmers with contact information and details.

Property-Based Rating

Mr Dalziell commented on the recent article in the Councillors Information Bulletin by Sir Ross Jansen on why he believed property based rating must be replaced.

Mr Dalziell suggested that the Committee could be seen to be more proactive in leading support for a commission regarding changing from a property based rating to user pay based.

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Cr Buchanan)

That the Committee gives its full support towards commencing a process for a change in property based rating.

The meeting closed at 12.10 pm.

CR R LONG
Chairperson

Date: