



Mackenzie

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Unconfirmed MINUTES

**Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management
Committee Meeting**

18 June 2021

**MINUTES OF MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL
UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON ZOOM
ON FRIDAY, 18 JUNE 2021 AT 9.30AM**

PRESENT: Chairperson Simon Cameron, Matthew Bayliss, Cr John Sunckell, Joy Paterson, Cr Ross McRobie, Cr Stuart Barwood (until 10am), Michael McMillan

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr Miriam Morton (Waimate District Council), Janine Roux (Committee Facilitator, Ecan), Graeme Clark (Ecan), Kate Doran (Ecan), Rick Ramsay (Aquaculture Group), April Hussey (LINZ), Karina Morrow (DOC), Arlene Goss (Governance Advisor), Debbie Eddington (Ecan, from 10.45am)

1 OPENING

The chairman opened the meeting and Michael McMillan gave a karakia.

The governance advisor noted that this meeting was held fully on Zoom but that Parliament had extended the Epidemic Preparedness (COVID-19) Notice 2020 for a further three months. This included the amendment to enable meetings via audio or visual link to meet quorum requirements regardless of Council Standing Orders.

2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Richard Subtil and Lisa Anderson.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 VISITORS

There were no visitors.

5 REPORTS

5.1 MINUTES OF UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 21 MAY 2021

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2021/89

Moved: Chairperson Simon Cameron

Seconded: Cr John Sunckell

That the Minutes of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on Friday 21 May 2021 be received and confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

CARRIED

5.2 TWIZEL RIVER RESTORATION

Matt Bayliss explained the background to the initiative to carry out river restoration work. Challenges for this area included mixed land ownership and unallocated crown land. The first step was the development of a plan for the area. This required money and help to employ the right set of skills to assist with a plan.

Karina Morrow from DOC said there was only budget for low level weed control for that space due to competing priorities throughout the district. She was supportive of a plan and another organisation taking the lead on that work. She said DOC was open to vesting land in council or a community agreement and was happy to work with other groups. She did not have anything to financially contribute but was happy to provide expertise.

She believed this space should be managed as a recreation space by Council.

April Hussey from LINZ said LINZ did not have any land in the area of the proposed restoration work. Unallocated land did not sit with LINZ. There was a process that could be followed to allocate the land but this was lengthy and expensive. LINZ would not be a party to any contracts or agreements regarding the land.

Matt Bayliss said all roads led to Mackenzie District Council and they needed to engage with council on this. Karina Morrow suggested raising this as part of the Parks Strategy consultation process. It was agreed to engage with MDC.

Matt Bayliss offered to organise a meeting with Tim Harty at MDC in the next few weeks.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2021/90

Moved: Chairperson Simon Cameron

Seconded: Cr John Sunckell

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee delegates Matt Bayliss and Joy Paterson to progress the Twizel River Restoration initiative further with Mackenzie District Council.

CARRIED

Cr Stuart Barwood, Karina Morrow and April Hussey left the meeting.

5.3 RUATANIWHA UPDATE

Joy Paterson updated the committee on a meeting of people involved with Lake Ruataniwha. She said there was immense goodwill from them to ensure the water quality issue did not happen again. They will be meeting again to review the communications material.

Regarding the need for a permanent toilet, an application for funding had been lodged by Mackenzie District Council and a decision would not be made until the outcome of this was known.

5.4 ZONE FACILITATOR'S REPORT

This report was from Janine Roux, Zone Facilitator, Environment Canterbury. This report provided information of interest to the Zone Committee that was not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

Janine Roux outlined the contents of her report. Cr Ross McRobie confirmed he was assisting with the Omarama Stream planting location. Regarding the committee refresh, there was concern that the new applicant had so far been unable to attend an interview or meeting.

The next meeting was discussed. There was a concern about the TLI numbers coming through and Janine Roux suggested that a meeting be held in conjunction with the Ahuriri Catchment Group and stakeholders in July to discuss this issue. This would be held at Omarama.

The chairman said there was no rush for this and he preferred to wait for August. However the committee heard that farmers in the area preferred July so they could make decisions before irrigation began. The committee agreed to do it in July.

Cr Sunckell asked if it was timely to have a discussion with Benmore Irrigation. Janine Roux said yes, either before or during the public consultation process.

Kate Doran asked if the July meeting would be a workshop or a formal zone committee meeting. The committee preferred a workshop to allow free and frank discussion.

Janine Roux then updated the committee on the Immediate Steps budget. This would no longer exist but would change to a “community engagement fund”. The zone committee would have more say over how it would be spent, although the amount would be halved in the first year.

It was noted that member Lisa Anderson finishes her term with the committee at this meeting and it would be good to invite her to the July workshop at Omarama so she could be thanked for her efforts.

5.5 UPDATE ON TLI RESULTS

Water scientist Graeme Clark updated the zone committee on the latest TLI (turbidity) results in the upper Waitaki lakes. He was concerned about some of the smaller lakes such as Lake Alexandrina and Lake Middleton and gave his views on what was causing the TLI increase. He said they were keeping an eye on the smaller lakes.

Extra water sampling was done at Lake Middleton to determine the impact of the fire and work was being done on these samples currently.

Michael McMillan asked if Lake Middleton and Alexandrina had any consents tied to them. No but they are in sensitive lake zones and farmers are required to move to good management practice.

The role of the calm, warm summer in contributing to the results was discussed. Mat Bayliss said he was concerned about Lake Middleton and Kellands Pond.

The compliance and land management advisor teams were keeping an eye on the affected catchments. Graeme Clark said there was a range of drivers behind any lake result and understanding these was really important.

5.6 ENVIROSCHOOLS, YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION

Debbie Eddington informed the zone committee about the Youth Engagement & Education and Envrioschools programme undertaken by Environment Canterbury. A copy of her presentation is available as an attachment to these minutes.

The committee discussed working further with Twizel School and this would be followed up.

The Meeting closed at 11.05am with a karakia from Michael McMillan.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on .

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CHAIRPERSON