



WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whanganui

MINUTES

**Whanganui Rural Community Board
Meeting
31 July 2019**

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**MINUTES OF THE WHANGANUI RURAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD IN THE NAGAIZUMI-CHO ROOM, 101 GUYTON STREET, WHANGANUI
ON 31 JULY 2019 AT 3.30PM**

PRESENT: Chairperson David Matthews, Member Bill Ashworth, Member Alistair Duff, Member Sandra Falkner, Member David Wells, Member Michael Dick, Member Grant Skilton, Cr Josh Chandulal-Mackay, and Cr Murray Cleveland.

APOLOGIES: Nil

IN ATTENDANCE: C Alan Taylor, Yth Cr Sophie Archer, Marianne Cavanagh (Principle Advisor – Corporate), Mark Ward (Whanganui & Partners Chief Executive), Brent Holmes (Senior Roading Engineer), Justin Walters (Policy Analyst), Kirsty Milham (Policy Advisor), Angus Murray (Communications Officer), and Louise Davies (Governance Services Officer).

VISITORS Cr David Cotton (Horizons Regional Council) and Brian Doughty (Federated Farmers).

The apology from Cr David Cotton (Horizons Regional Council) for lateness, was noted.

1 APOLOGIES

Nil

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No new declarations of interest had arisen since Board members had last completed the Elected Members' Interests Register.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 MINUTES OF THE WHANGANUI RURAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON 19 JUNE 2019

Author: Louise Davies - Governance Services Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the decision is not significant.

Committee Resolution 2019/7

Moved: Member Grant Skilton

Seconded: Member Sandra Falkner

1. THAT the Minutes of the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 19 June 2019 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FORUM

Nil

5 REPORTS TO BOARD

5.1 ACTIONS ARISING

Author: Louise Davies - Governance Services Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

There were no actions arising.

5.2 COMMUNITY PARTNERS UPDATE

Author: Louise Davies - Governance Services Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Youth Council – update provided by Yth Cr Sophie Archer:

- Youth Hub project.
- Retreat held to discuss the Youth Council's 2019/20 business plan.

Federated Farmers – update provided by Brian Doughty:

- Concerns held on the impact of the One Billion Trees programme such as productive farmland being converted to forestry, and the long-term impacts of that trend on rural communities.

Horizons Regional Council – Cr David Cotton:

The Board raised its frustrations regarding the difficulties and delays in obtaining the requisite resource consents for work to be undertaken for rural roading issues. Given that this would ultimately require a policy change, Cr Cotton advised that this issue would be best addressed through the Annual Plan submission process.

Cr Cotton thanked the Board for its support, and submissions to Horizons Regional Council, over the last three years, and had appreciated the ability to update the Board on a regular basis.

5.3 WHANGANUI & PARTNERS UPDATE

Author: Louise Davies - Governance Services Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Mark Ward (Chief Executive, Whanganui & Partners) provided a PowerPoint Presentation and outlined the following key points:

- Agribusiness Agenda – main theme being collaboration; business case development, market research, and resourcing with partners.
- Pilot study – land use optimisation programme; rural enterprise feasibility study, public meetings to ascertain interest, consultant assistance, collaboration with Rangitikei District Council.
- Golden Corridor Project – Economic development and growth strategy involving respective agencies from Wellington to New Plymouth. Focus on agribusiness, connecting tourism attractions, logistics hubs, transportation gateways, enabling infrastructure.
- Knowledge partnerships – including Lincoln and Massey Universities.
- Toowoomba Strategy – long term vision for agribusiness and possibly logistics. Example being Toowoomba's Wellcamp Airport.
- Carryover of funding for the Provincial Growth Fund pilot study on the Land Use Optimisation project.
- Progress on Strategic Lead Agribusiness role.

Mark Ward was thanked for his presentation.

5.4 RURAL ROADING INFORMATION REPORT - JULY 2019

Author: Brent Holmes - Senior Roading Engineer

Authoriser: Mark Hughes - General Manager Infrastructure

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the decision is not significant.

Discussion

Brent Holmes (Senior Roading Engineer) spoke to his report and responded to queries on:

- Continued lobbying of central government regarding ongoing impact of forestry on rural roading, and especially in anticipation of One Billion Trees programme.
- Specific tracking of maintenance costs for rural roading.
- New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) funding re-prioritisation and impact upon the Whanganui District.

Committee Resolution 2019/8

Moved: Member Michael Dick

Seconded: Cr Murray Cleveland

THAT the Whanganui Rural Community Board receive the report – Rural Roding Information Report - July 2019.

CARRIED

5.5 STRATEGY AND POLICY UPDATE: JULY 2019

Author: Kirsty Milham - Policy Adviser - Research and Engagement

Justin Walters - Policy Analyst Legislative & Performance Management

Authoriser: Charlotte Almond - General Manager Strategy

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the decision is not significant.

Discussion

Climate Change Strategy: The report was taken as read. Kirsty Milham (Policy Advisor) noted that community engagement was to be undertaken in order to seek feedback that would inform the development of a Climate Change Strategy. Support and assistance was sought from the Board to ensure that the 'rural voice' was well represented.

Rural Broadband and Mobile Black Spots rollout: An update had been received from the Rural Connectivity Group to advise on planned repeater sites at Waitotora on State Highway 3, and in Coleman Avenue, Waverley by June 2020; and later in 2019 at Waiinu Beach.

Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill: Justin Walters (Policy Analyst) was commended for compiling the Board's submission on the Climate Change Response.

Committee Resolution 2019/9

Moved: Chairperson David Matthews

Seconded: Member Sandra Falkner

1. THAT the information is received.
2. THAT the Whanganui Rural Community Board note its submission to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill.

CARRIED

5.6 PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Author: Louise Davies - Governance Services Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Significance of decision – In terms of the Significance and Engagement Policy 2018, the decision is not significant.

David Matthews took the opportunity to thank Board members and Council staff for their input and support to the Board. He also thanked the Board's Community Partners for their regular attendance and updates, noting that this representation was the envy of many other community boards.

In acknowledgement that this would be the last Board meeting for Chairman David Matthew, Grant Skilton thanked him for his support to the Board and the rural community over the past 12 years, and noted a number of his achievements over that period.

Committee Resolution 2019/10

Moved: Member Grant Skilton

Seconded: Member Michael Dick

1. THAT David Matthews be acknowledged and thanked for his services to the Whanganui Rural Community Board.

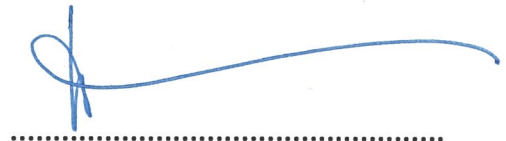
CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 4.45pm.

The minutes of this meeting were signed by the Whanganui District Council's Chief Executive and the Whanganui Rural Community Board Chair in accordance with the Board's Standing Orders, Clause 27.4.



CHAIRPERSON



CHIEF EXECUTIVE

