

**WHANGANUI
RURAL
COMMUNITY
BOARD**



MINUTES

**Whanganui Rural Community Board
Meeting**

4 November 2020

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**MINUTES OF THE WHANGANUI RURAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 101 GUYTON STREET, WHANGANUI
ON 4 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 3.30PM**

PRESENT: Chairperson Grant Skilton, Deputy David Wells, Member Alistair Duff, Member Michael Dick, Cr Brent Crossan, Member Peter Oskam

APOLOGIES: Councillor Charlie Anderson, Sandra Falkner, Bill Ashworth

IN ATTENDANCE: Kym Fell (Chief Executive), Hayley Fitzgerald (Democracy Support Officer), Marianne Cavanagh (Customer Solutions Manager), Louise Davies (Policy and Risk Support Officer) Graeme Paulger (Senior Property Officer), Angus Murray (Communications Officer) Councillor Rob Vinsen, Stu Hylton (Contractor), Colleen Sheldon (Strategic Lead – Agribusiness)

VISITORS: Paul Mackintosh (Federated Farmers) Gavin Pryce (FENZ), Claire Atkins (Fordell and Mangamahu Rural Women’s Group), Keith Butters (New Zealand Police)

1 APOLOGIES

Apology

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/30

Moved: Cr Brent Crossan

Seconded: Member Michael Dick

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board accepts the apology of Cr Charlie Anderson, Sandra Falkner and Bill Ashworth and grants leave of absence for this meeting.

CARRIED

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 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support 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 WRCB/2020/31

Moved: Member Peter Oskam

Seconded: Member Michael Dick

That the minutes of the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 23 September 2020 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

4 PUBLIC FORUM

5 REPORTS TO BOARD

5.1 COMMUNITY PARTNERS UPDATE

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

Gavin Pryce from Fire Emergency New Zealand provided a summary of the 2019/2020 fire season in the Whanganui Rural area. The FENZ website has had an upgrade and this is where people can go to apply for a fire permit, check the fire season status and check their own address to see whether they require a fire permit.

Constable Keith Butters of the New Zealand Police spoke about recent crime trends in rural areas. There had been an overall drop in crime, but trailers remained popular items for theft, some farmers were using tracking devices on trailers. Constable Butters would like to remind the rural community to continue to report any thefts and offered his continued support for Rural Security Cameras saying they are an invaluable aid to the police.

Claire Atkins, Chair of the Fordell and Mangamahu Rural Women's Group. The group focuses on friendship, fun and fundraising. Fundraising efforts principally go toward helping with the costs of local young people's education. There is a bursary fund annually for help with uniform or technology costs before starting secondary school. There is also a tertiary fund which is \$1000 towards university/post-secondary school study or training. The only criteria for these grants is that the young person lives locally and that they are studying or training in an area that will

contribute to the community. The group welcome any rural or country minded women to join their group not just from Fordell/ Mangamahu.

Paul Mackintosh from Federated Farmers and gave an update on some new initiatives they are working on including Growers Leading Change, like minded farmers coming together to facilitate change. Federated Farmers are meeting more with other industry partners to see what can be done for the region. The Whanganui region will soon have three new kiwifruit orchards providing job opportunities for local people. Paul was thanked for recently attending a Climate Change workshop at Council.

5.2 ADOPTION OF RURAL DIRECTIONS 2020-2030

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

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

Discussion

Hayley Fitzgerald (Democracy Support Officer) spoke to the report. The review and update of 'Rural Directions', the Whanganui Rural Community Board's Strategic Plan, had recently been completed and was ready to be adopted.

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/32

Moved: Member Alistair Duff

Seconded: Member Peter Oskam

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board adopt the updated strategic plan "Rural Directions 2020-2030".

CARRIED

5.3 MAINTENANCE COSTS OF THE MANGAMAHU BRIDGE SECURITY CAMERA

Author: Hayley Fitzgerald - Democracy Support Officer

Authoriser: Kate Barnes - Senior Democracy Advisor

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

Discussion

Chairman Grant Skilton and Deputy Chair David Wells spoke in favour of this recommendation, as the camera is of ongoing benefit to the Mangamahu area.

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/33

Moved: Deputy David Wells

Seconded: Cr Brent Crossan

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board fund the maintenance of the Mangamahu Bridge Rural Security Camera at a cost of \$800 per annum for the next 12 months.

CARRIED

5.4 STRATEGY AND POLICY UPDATE

Author: Louise Davies - Policy & Risk Support Officer

Authoriser: Stephanie Macdonald-Rose - Group Manager - Corporate

Discussion

Louise Davies (Policy and Risk Support Officer) spoke to this report. The Board’s recent attendance at the Climate Change Strategy Workshop was welcomed by the Policy Team. The Mangamahu Repeater Installation will start on November 22nd 2020.

Committee Resolution WRCB/2020/34

Moved: Member Michael Dick

Seconded: Member Peter Oskam

That the Whanganui Rural Community Board receive the report – Strategy and Policy Update.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 4.35pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Whanganui Rural Community Board Meeting held on 24 February 2021.

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CHAIRPERSON