

Minutes of the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group Meeting held in CR2, Rotorua District Council Civic Administration Building, 1061 Haupapa Street, Rotorua on Friday, 23 September 2011 commencing at 10.00 a.m.

Present:

Chairman: K Winters (Mayor, Rotorua District Council)

Deputy Chairman: T Curtis (Chairman, Te Arawa Lakes Trust)

Members: J Cronin (Chairman, Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
W Emery (Deputy Chairman, Te Arawa Lakes Trust)
K Hunt (Councillor, Rotorua District Council)

Alternate Members: L Thurston (Councillor, Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
G Searancke (Councillor, Rotorua District Council)

In Attendance: M Pinckard and M Flannegan (Ministry for the Environment), T Eru (Bay of Plenty Regional Councillor), T Briggs (Policy Analyst), G Corbett (Manager Land Resources (Rotorua), R Donald (Water Science & Support Manager), A Grayling (Rotorua Lakes Project Manager), E Grogan (Group Manager Water Management), M MacLeod (Chief Executive), K Maki (Sustainable Development Manager), W Murray (Group Manager Land Management), S Omundsen (Senior Planner), L Thompson (Senior Communications Advisor) from Bay of Plenty Regional Council, N Claassen (Infrastructure Group Manager), P Guerin (Chief Executive), from Rotorua District Council, H Smith (Executive Officer) from Te Arawa Lakes Trust, B Bond, J Howland, I McLean, L Meharry, M Moana-Tuwhangai, K Porima, H Prior (members of the public) and S Cubbon (Committee Administrator)

Apologies: N Oppatt (Councillor, Bay of Plenty Regional Council)

1 Presentation

1.1 Research Results

Dr Ngaire Phillips from NIWA provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the research undertaken on Contaminants in Kai, a project assessing risks to Te Arawa from traditional foods. Trout, eel; koura, pipi, smelt, whitebait and mussels were among the food sources tested, and Ms Phillips advised the project had limited sample sizes so the study was indicative only. How much people ate, how often, and where they got it from were questions included in the survey and results showed a degree of risk in some cases. Moderation was recommended.

2 Reports

2.1 Rotorua Lakes TLI update

Rob Donald presented the report on the Trophic Level Index of Rotorua Lakes, the results of monitoring the water quality data during the year ending June 2011. Members were advised that eight lakes (nine including Rotokakahi) now exceeded the TLI set in the Regional Water and Land Plan. The Plan, set triggers that enabled the Bay of Plenty Regional Council to develop Action Plans where the three yearly TLI average was exceeded. New Action Plans had been initiated for Lakes Okataina, Rotokakahi and Tarawera.

Detailing the results of each lake, Mr Donald reported that Lake Rotoiti was showing signs of improvement, as were Rotoehu, Rotorua and Tikitapu.

Resolved

That the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Rotorua Lakes TLI update.

Thurston/Hunt
CARRIED

2.2 Proposed Scope and Process for the Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua District.

Policy Analyst, Toni Briggs' report sought approval from the Group of the proposed scope and process for the Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua District. A collaborative project had been established with representatives from the Group, and Ms Briggs noted the process for developing the Strategy would be set out over three phases. Engagement with the public would be in the form of workshops, focus groups, interviews and youth competition.

Resolved

That the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Proposed Scope and Process for the Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua District.
- 2 Approves the proposed scope and process for the update of the Strategy for the Lakes of the Rotorua District.
- 3 Confirms that the decision is within the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's strategic planning framework (Council's Ten Year Plan, and planning documents and processes under the Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993, Land Transport Act 2003, Civil Defence and Emergency Act 2002, and Local Government Act 1974 and 2002).

Cronin/Emery
CARRIED2

2.3 Review of the Land Use Futures Board

Accompanying the report was a paper prepared by Wasley Knell Consultants Ltd reviewing the role of the Land Use Futures Board, its work to date and the future needs for stakeholder consultation and involvement in the Lakes Programme. The options were to retain the Board until the review of the Lakes Strategy was completed, or to disband the Board now. The reviewer concluded that, given changes in the operating environment, the Board should be disbanded now.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Group Manager Land Management, Warwick Murray advised the Group that the paper had been discussed with the Chairman of the Land Use Futures Board, Bill Cleghorn who accepted and understood the proposal to disband now. Members wished to acknowledge the work done by the collective, that of the late Chairman Rick Valance and Chairman Cleghorn, and noted their work would continue in an alternative form.

Resolved

That the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Review of the Land Use Futures Board.**
- 2 Accepts the recommendations made in section 5.3 of Wasley Knell Consultants Limited report "Review of the Land Use Futures Board" July 2011. The recommendations are:**
 - i. That the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group and partner Councils' consider the options outlined in this review report regarding the Land Use Futures Board, but noting that the review recommendation is for the Board to be dis-established for the reasons outlined in the review report.**
 - ii. That the work of the Land Use Futures Board be appropriately recognised, and that the Board be thanked for its work since its establishment in 2007.**
- 3 Confirms that the decision is within the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's strategic planning framework (Council's Ten Year Plan, and planning documents and processes under the Resource Management Act 1991, Biosecurity Act 1993, Land Transport Act 2003, Civil Defence and Emergency Act 2002, and Local Government Act 1974 and 2002).**

**Thurston/Hunt
CARRIED**

2.3 Programme Report

The Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group received a briefing on key issues and actions associated with the implementation of the Strategy for the Lakes of Rotorua District, not otherwise covered in the agenda. Warwick Murray discussed ongoing work on individual lakes, and Regional Council Sustainable Management Manager, Kataraina Maki provided a policy update. Members were told they could expect to have another report at the December meeting looking at the development of rules.

Resolved

That the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Programme Report.**

**Thurston/Curtis
CARRIED**

2.4 Update from Te Arawa Lakes Trust

Hera Smith, Executive Officer Te Arawa Lakes Trust, provided a verbal update of the Trust's involvement in Rotorua Lakes issues. This included working with Regional Council on a baseline assessment for lakes structures and with Rotorua District Council on an implementation plan. Staff continued to work with the Harbour Master and lakes wardens, and had confirmed a secondment from Ministry of Fisheries to assist in the development of fisheries regulations. Ms Smith also advised that the Te Arawa Research Strategy had been completed.

That the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the verbal report from Te Arawa Lakes Trust.**

**Emery/Cronin
CARRIED**

2.5 Rotorua Lakeside Communities Sewerage Scheme Programme Progress

The Rotorua District Council Infrastructure Group Manager, Nico Claassen summarised the considerable progress to date of implementation of the programmed sewage scheme started in 2005. The report listed the areas in which the scheme was completed and those in which construction had started. Estimated completion dates for Gisborne Point/Hinehopu, Rotoma, Tarawera and Mamaku were provided, and members were advised of progress with the Rotorua Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade.

That the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report Rotorua Lakeside Communities Sewerage Scheme Programme Progress.**

**Thurston/Hunt
CARRIED**

3 Resolution to exclude the public

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason 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:

3.1 **Annual Report and Annual Programme for the Crown**

Reason

Good reason for withholding exists under Section 48(1)(a)

Grounds

To carry out commercial and industrial negotiations

**Thurston/Cronin
CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 11.40 a.m. at the conclusion of the publicly excluded report.