

Minutes of the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee Meeting held in Council Meeting Room One, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 5 Quay Street, Whakatane on Thursday, 16 June 2011 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Present:

Chairman: M Whitaker

Deputy Chairman: P Sherry

Councillors: R Bennett, T Eru, J Mansell, I Noble, N Oppatt, D Owens

Ex Officio: Chairman J Cronin

In Attendance: D Ede (Pollution Prevention Officer), P de Monchy (Senior Land Management Officer), E Grogan (Group Manager Water Management), P McLaren (Whakatane District Council), K Maki (Sustainable Development Manager), G Maloney (Acting Group Manager Strategic Development), J Morris (Pollution Prevention Officer), W Murray (Group Manager Land Management), D Paine (Biosecurity Officer), S Pickles (Pollution Prevention Team Leader), S Stokes (Manager Land Resources (Eastern), K Tarboton (Group Manager Environmental Hazards) F Wood Land Resources Administration Officer), S Cubbon (Committee Administration)

Apologies: T Marr, P Thompson, L Thurston, J Nees (Leave of absence)

Absent: N Oppatt

1 Chairman's Announcement

The scheduled deputation from the People's Choice Party failed to arrive and the Chairman directed that the meeting continue.

2 Reports

2.1 Whakatane Ohope Sites Biodiversity Management Plan

Refer Biodiversity Management Plan Obj Ref A561725, and PowerPoint presentation

The Manager of Land Resources (Eastern), Simon Stokes provided a Power Point presentation supporting the report that sought a decision on the grant fund approval for the Whakatane Ohope Sites Biodiversity Management Plan. The report set out four funding options providing four different biodiversity management outcomes. Mr Stokes elaborated on the benefits and disadvantages of these options and advised that the staff preference was for Option 3 calling for funding of \$930,000 for five years.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Whitaker declared his interest as Chairman of the Whakatane Kiwi Trust and volunteered to take no part in discussion of this report.

Councillors each contributed opinions on the proposal, some noting the importance of having biodiversity sites close to urban areas in order to maintain community connection, and applauded the collaborative approach taken in this programme. Others spoke of similar sites that could benefit from such funding in the Tauranga area.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Whakatane Ohope Sites Biodiversity Management Plan.**
- 2 Notes that staff recommend Option 3: That the Regional Council approve the grant funding for the Whakatane Ohope Sites Biodiversity Management Plan at \$930,000 for five years.**

Recommendation

- 1 That the Regional Council approve grant funding for the Whakatane Ohope Sites Biodiversity Management Plan at \$930,000 for five years.**

**Bennett/Mansell
CARRIED**

Committee Chairman Malcolm Whitaker **ABSTAINED** from voting.

Councillor Noble requested his vote **AGAINST** the recommendation be recorded.

2.2 Tauranga School Bus Services

The Committee were given an update by Acting Group Manager Strategic Development, Garry Maloney on the transition of students from Ministry of Education funded bus services to the Council funded Tauranga urban bus service. The implications of approximately 5,200 students using public transport or private vehicles were considered by members and it was noted a workshop to discuss the issue would be held for the Public Transport Subcommittee on 1 July 2011.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Tauranga School Bus Services.**

**Cronin/Whitaker
CARRIED**

2.3 Update on Alligator weed for 2010/2011

Group Manager Land Management, Warwick Murray advised of progress made on reduction of the population and density of alligator weed at all known sites in the region. He noted there had been three new sites identified in Bethlehem, Taneatua and Rangitaiki Plains, and all were now under control and under on-going inspection and follow-up control work. Members acknowledged the importance of maintaining awareness levels within the community.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Update on Alligator weed for 2010/2011.

Whitaker/Sherry
CARRIED

Adjournment

An adjournment was called for morning tea at 10.35 a.m. and the meeting reconvened at 10.52 a.m.

Attendance

Councillor Eru left the meeting at 10.52 am.

2.4 Update on the Coast Care programme

Refer PowerPoint presentation

Mr Murray introduced Coast Care Coordinator, Pim de Monchy who gave a PowerPoint presentation of activities being undertaken in the region to protect, restore and promote coastal dunes. Committee members noted that the successful partnership between Councils, the Department of Conservation and coastal communities had gathered 2,100 volunteers last year to plant 99,000 coastal plants. Questions were answered by staff regarding the funding supplied and contribution from partner agencies.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Update on the Coast Care programme.

Whitaker/Bennett
CARRIED

Attendance

Councillor Eru rejoined the meeting at 11.10 a.m.

2.5 **New Zealand Marine Services Accident**

Refer PowerPoint presentation

Pollution Prevention Officer, John Morris presented photographic illustrations of the clean up operation following an accident involving a truck carrying 23,000 litres of sludge oil on Te Puna Station Road.

Attendance

Council Chairman John Cronin left the meeting at 11.30 a.m.

The clean up had been very successful. Members noted the results such an oil spill could have been disastrous and wished to acknowledge Trans Pacific and Dean Wright from New Zealand Marine Services for their assistance and support in managing the incident.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 **Receives the report, NZ Marine Services Accident.**

**Whitaker/Sherry
CARRIED**

2.6 **AFFCO Rangioru - Te Puke Compliance Monitoring Report: May 2005 to 31 December 2010**

Refer PowerPoint presentation

Water Management Group Manager, Eddie Grogan introduced David Ede, the Pollution Prevention Manager dealing with AFFCO New Zealand Limited, operators of a sheep and beef processing plant at Rangioru, Te Puke. The company holds a number of resource consents for various activities associated with this operation and the report examined consent compliance from May 2005 until May 2010.

A PowerPoint presentation illustrated the wetland system used to treat wastewater which was then discharged to the Kaituna River. Members were advised AFFCO proactively worked to ensure continued compliance. Mr Ede noted that in six of the nine consents held, compliance had generally been high and in cases where it was not, AFFCO were working with staff to improve their ranking.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 **Receives the report, AFFCO Rangioru - Te Puke Compliance Monitoring Report: May 2005 to 31 December 2010.**

- 2 **Notes the staff action in following up some non-compliance with the resource consents.**

Sherry/Noble
CARRIED

2.7 **Schedule of Enquiries, Complaints and Enforcement Activities: 1 January 2011 to 31 March 2011**

Pollution Prevention Team Leader, Steve Pickles Reported on the activities for the three month period to the end of April 2011 in which almost 600 complaints and enquiries were received, ten abatement notices served, and twelve infringement notices issued.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 **Receives the report, Schedule of Enquiries, Complaints and Enforcement Activities: 1 January 2011 to 31 March 2011.**

Sherry/Bennett
CARRIED

2.8 **Rotorua Air Quality Control Bylaw - Administration and Enforcement Strategy**

The report was presented by Sustainable Development Manager, Kataraina Maki and updated the Committee on the Administration and Enforcement Strategy developed for the Rotorua District Council Air Quality Control Bylaw.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 **Receives the report, '*Rotorua Air Quality Control Bylaw Administration and Enforcement Strategy*'.**

Whitaker/Sherry
CARRIED

2.9 **Group Managers Report**

The Group Managers Environmental Hazards, Water, and Land Management each gave a brief summary of key operational issues and achievements for the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee. Ken Tarboton pointed out what he considered to be interesting statistics concerning rainfall in the current year. Eddie Grogan noted his team were working with Wally Lee looking at concerns raised in a DVD regarding the Puerenga Stream in Rotorua. Warwick Murray advised that concerns previously noted by Councillors regarding Tauranga Harbour Land Management were being addressed.

Resolved

That the Operations, Monitoring and Regulation Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Group Managers Report.**

**Whitaker/Owens
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 Rangitaiki Tarawera Rivers Scheme Submission on Matahina Dam Resource Consent

Reason

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

Grounds

To protect this information so it doesn't prejudice similar information

3.2 Floating Wetland Proposal: Rotorua District Council

Reason

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

Grounds

To protect the privacy of an individual

Chairman's Announcement

The grounds for which the public should be excluded from attending the presentation of this report to be replaced by:

Grounds

To enable the local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

**Whitaker/Sherry
CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 2.30 p.m. at the conclusion of the publicly excluded reports.