



SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL HEARING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

27 March 2019

Present: Mayor Viv Napier (Chair), Councillors Brian Jephson (until 4:12pm), Lee Carter, Pam Colenso, Margaret Craig, Mike Gray, Pip Maynard, Colin Olds, Colin Wright and Ross Vickery.

In Attendance: Paul Crimp (Chief Executive Officer) and Suzanne Clark (Committee Secretary).

Conduct of Business: The meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and was conducted in public between 2:00pm and 4:30pm.

Open Section

1. Affirmation

Deputy Mayor Brian Jephson read the South Wairarapa District Council affirmation.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Conflicts of Interest

It was noted that Mr Crimp's son worked for Wellington Water.

4. Submissions Hearings as per Schedule

The Mayor and councillors heard verbal submissions from delegations in support of their written submission as follows:

- Perry Cameron
- Michael Perry (also representing Susan Perry)
- Warren Woodgyer (also representing Ted and Eileen Ward)
- Richard Rudman
- Ron Shaw on behalf of Wairarapa Voice
- Barry Kempton

5. Officers Summary of Wellington Water Proposals Report

Council adjourned for afternoon tea at 2:55pm.

Council reconvened at 3:13pm.

DISCLAIMER

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Councillors reviewed all written and verbal submissions (attached in Appendix 1). Mr Crimp answered councillor concerns about the costs of becoming a shareholder of Wellington Water not being included in the Statement of Proposal (SoP) by clarifying that the Long Term Plan (LTP) financial statements were the costs going forward and that there were no ancillary costs of any materiality. Mr Crimp noted councillor comments about better linkages between the SoP to the LTP financials and that the opportunity to become a shareholder with Wellington Water was presented after the 2018/28 Long Term Plan had been adopted.

Councillors discussed other concerns including a need for wider and a longer period of communication with ratepayers and Māori, making a decision prior to central government direction, confusion between Water Wairarapa and the SoP's option of a Wairarapa wide three waters management option, better investigation of a Wairarapa wide option. The advantage of accessing additional technical expertise offered by Wellington Water was also discussed. Members noted that most submitters were against the proposal and it appeared that the public wanted more information and more time to consider the options.

Members noted that resolution DC2019/09 should refer to Greater Wellington Regional Council not Greater Wellington City Council.

HEARINGS COMMITTEE RESOLVED (DC2019/42):

1. To receive the Wellington Water Shareholding Hearing Report.
(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Colenso) Carried
2. To note the feedback from the public consultation.
(Moved Cr Craig/Seconded Cr Maynard) Carried
3. To recommend to South Wairarapa District Council to retain the status quo in the meantime and undertake further consideration of our options for the future three waters management in the coming months.
(Moved Cr Wright/Seconded Cr Carter)

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of Submission Decisions

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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Summary of Submission Decisions

Submission No.	Name of Submitter	Speaking	Status Quo	Wairarapa 3 waters delivery	Shareholder Wgtn Water	Comments in support of choice	Officer Comments	Council Comment
1	Peter Roberts	N	0	1	0	No comment	The SOP provides commenary on this option	Noted
2	Tracey R Yandle	N	1	0	0	No comment	The SOP provides commenary on this option	Noted
3	Tony Pritchard	N	1	0	0	Not adequately costed. Self governance being exported to Wellington	Paragraph 1 of the SOP indicated SWDC retains ownership of infrastructural assets. Para 4.3 of the SOP indicates SWDC would retain asset ownership, budgetary control, and service level setting. The impact of [becoming a shareholder] this option in relation to that forecast in the 2018/28 LTP would be minimal	Councillors noted that governance would remain with SWDC. Council officer's comment applies.
4	Perry Cameron	Y	0	1	0	Loss of control	Para 4.3 of the SOP indicates SWDC would retain asset ownership, budgetary control, and service level setting. The impact of [becoming a shareholder] this option in relation to that forecast in the 2018/28 LTP would be minimal	Councillors noted that the pace of consultation and provision of information had moved quickly, partially due to the indication by central government of new water legislation on the horizon. Council officers comment applies.
5	Jack Sheppard	N	0	0	1	SWDC has lack of capacity to adequately manage the assests.		Councillors noted that the SoP indicated existing staff were at capacity and that in the event of new legislation ratepayers would need to fund additional staff with the right skill set.
6	Adam Mattsen	N	0	0	1	Good oportunity. Specialist in the area.		Councillors noted that the SoP indicated existing staff were at capacity and that in the event of new legislation ratepayers would need to fund additional staff with the right skill set.
7	Dan Neemia	N	1	0	0	Cost increases. Loss of assests.	Paragraph 1 of the SOP indicated SWDC retains ownership of infrastructural assets. Para 4.3 of the SOP indicates SWDC would retain asset ownership, budgetary control, and service level setting. The impact of [becoming a shareholder] this option in relation to that forecast in the 2018/28 LTP would be minimal	Council officer's comment applies.
8	Barry Kempton	Y	1	0	0	No problem with current operation or cost.	The SOP outlines the benefits of becoming a shareholder, against the risks of retaining the status quo	Councillors recognised that Wellington Water did not have water races expertise and that Council had mitigated the risk by creating a Water Race Sub-committee.
9	Joanne Kempton	N	1	0	0	Does not seee any advantages to changing. Moroa Race should be operated by locals	The SOP outlines the benefits of becoming a shareholder, against the risks of retaining the status quo. The Water Race committees will be retained.	Councillors recognised that Wellington Water did not have water races expertise and that Council had mitigated the risk by creating a Water Race Sub-committee.
10	Penny Taylor	N	0	0	0	Does not want flouride in water	The decision to fluoridate water, or not will not be transferred to Wellington Water. Curently this sits with the local authority, though the decision may transfer to the Wairarapa DHB	Councillors noted that flouridation was not part of the proposal.
11	Regional Public Health	Y	0	0	1	Protection of infrastructure. Consistency. Strengthen ability of Council to meet standards.		Councillors noted the submission and alignment to central government's position.
12	Warren Woodgyer	Y	0	1	0	Poor design of Martinborough water supply.	The three waters output will still be lead and managed by SWDC. The current SWDC staff will be located in SWDC offices, so knowledge will be retained. One of the key benefits of joining WW will be resilience during an event. The recent change in service delivery provider had as a key plank the ability to mobilise a large workforce in the event of an emergency. This service delivery provider already has a presence in the Wairarapa.	Councillors noted comments made about Martinborough's water design and situation.
13	Micheal Dennis Perry	Y	0	1	0	No comment	The SOP provides commenary on this option	Councillors noted the benefit of using local publications to get Council communications distributed

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14	Eileen Ward	Y	1	0	0	No comment	The SOP provides commenary on this option	Noted
15	Susan Perry	Y	0	1	0	No comment	The SOP provides commenary on this option	Councillors noted the benefit of using local publications to get Council communications distributed
16	Ted Ward	Y	1	0	0	No comment	The SOP provides commenary on this option	Noted
17	Richard Rudman	Y			0	Insufficient evidence to support Wellington Water	The SOP outlines the benefits of becoming a shareholder, against the risks of retaining the status quo. The Water Race committees will be retained.	Council noted the comprehensive submission and agreed that the link to the financial information provided in the SoP and the LTP could have been better highlighted.
18	Wairarapa Voice Inc	Y	1	0	0	Existing issues will transfer to Wellington Water. Revise current delivery model.	Paragraph 1 of the SOP indicated SWDC retains ownership of infrastructural assets. Para 4.3 of the SOP indicates SWDC would retain asset ownership, budgetary control, and service level setting. The impact of [becoming a shareholder] this option in relation to that forecast in the 2018/28 LTP would be minimal. Responsibility for addressing issues will still lie with SWDC, through service level setting and the LTP processes.	Council noted the comprehensive submission and acknowledged the seriousness of water noncompliance; this had been addressed with contractors. The cost of becoming a shareholder was confirmed as \$50,000 for Class B shares, Class A shares were given to shareholders at no cost.
	TOTALS		8	5	3			