



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Kia Reretahi Tātau

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES

24 April 2019

- Present:** Mayor Viv Napier (Chair), Councillors Pam Colenso, Margaret Craig, Mike Gray, Pip Maynard, Brian Jephson, Colin Olds and Ross Vickery.
- In Attendance:** Jennie Mitchell (Acting Chief Executive), Mark Allingham (Group Manager Infrastructure and Services), Russell O’Leary (Group Manager Planning and Regulatory), Lawrence Stephenson (Assets and Operations Manager), Jason Colton (Lutra) and Suzanne Clark (Committee Advisor).
- Conduct of Business:** The meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and was conducted in public between 9:00am and 11:06am.
- Forum and Other Presenters:** Martin Freeth, Helen Masters, Lynne Maugham and Alan Barker, Lisa Cornelissen, Alex Wall and Cathy Jamieson.

Open Section

A1. Karakia

Mayor Napier opened with the affirmation and Cr Jephson followed with a karakia.

A2. Apologies

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2019/72) to accept apologies from Cr Lee Carter and Cr Colin Wright.

(Moved Cr Craig/Seconded Cr Jephson)

Carried

A3. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

A4. Public Participation

Martin Freeth

Mr Freeth had reviewed Council documentation and believed that local water supply had been delivered piecemeal with a history of non-compliance. Mr Freeth agreed that temporary chlorination was a step in the right direction. Water supply needed to be future proofed and an overhaul undertaken. Implementation timeframes were missing from the officer’s report and Mr Freeth queried what would be done with backflow connections.

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Helen Masters

Ms Masters noted Martinborough's reputation as a quality wine producing region. Fifteen vineyards (approximately) were on town water supply and needed a potable water supply. Chlorinated water was to be avoided as it contributed to the production of trichloroanisole (TCA), a 'corked' taint. Ms Masters noted the moratorium on bore consents within the town and the difficulty for vineyards to determine the best alternate water source/solution and then fund the implementation. Ms Masters requested sufficient time for wineries to make the needed changes should temporary chlorination be the only way forward.

Lynne Maugham and Alan Barker

Mr Barker noted the short term issue of how to disinfect water but also a long term issue of intensifying use of land beyond its capacity to cope. Mr Barker noted the evidence of herbicides increasingly found in water and discarded herbicide containers in the Regent Street ditch. Mr Barker requested long term plans that respected the environment and did not have a view on temporary chlorination.

Lisa Cornelissen

Mrs Cornelissen believed that the current situation was first and foremost a public health issue and individuals who were anti-chlorine did not over rule the town's right to safe water. Mrs Cornelissen supported a thriving hospitality industry and requested Council work with businesses, particularly wineries, to see what could be done to help. Mrs Cornelissen requested that the pipes were flushed and then chlorinated, but that this was held off until the school holidays to reduce impact, or that an acceptable notice period was provided to reduce impact.

Alex Wall

Mr Wall was not against chlorination, but was concerned about the level of chlorination that may be applied as heavily chlorinated water was unpleasant. Mr Wall wanted to know what alternative solutions were being investigated (e.g. new bore sites) and why \$480,000 was being spent on a manganese plant if permanent chlorination was not going to take place.

Kathy Jamieson

Ms Jamieson wanted to know if there was a register of private connections to the town supply that Council were working through in order to check the correct operation of backflow valves. Ms Jamieson suggested there was an education issue and queried private household responsibility for checking functionality of backflow valves.

Mr Stephenson advised that Council had a register of high risk and low water pressure areas and investigations had started in these zones. An education package was being put together.

A5. Actions from Public Participation

Councillors noted the presentations and deferred discussion to agenda item B1 Proposal to Temporarily Chlorinate the Martinborough Water Supply.

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B Decision Reports from Chief Executive and Staff

B1. Martinborough Chlorination

Ms Mitchell, Council officers, and Mr Colton answered councillor questions.

Councillors queried the timeframe attached to ‘temporary’ and Mr Stephenson advised that either the source of contamination had to be positively identified or a permanent solution identified before Regional Public Health would lift the boil water notice. Council would continue to investigate backflow issues, but these were hard to isolate due to their intermittent nature. A permanent solution may take six months to develop.

Samples continued to be taken around the network, with positive readings only being found in the reservoir. There was no contamination found at the source.

Options for providing potable water to wineries was being investigated; including carbon filters and alternate bores.

Council officers had liaised with counterparts in other regions, however wineries in other regions were not connected to municipal supply.

Consultation had been attempted with the Māori Standing Committee and would be undertaken in retrospect.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2019/73) to temporarily suspend standing orders.

(Moved Cr Craig/Seconded Cr Gray)

Carried

Mr Stephenson presented a parallel plan for preparing Martinborough water pipes for chlorination (flushing) while the wineries were working through the best way to source potable water.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2019/74) to adjourn at 10:40am until input from Regional Public Health could be obtained.

(Moved Mayor Napier/Seconded Cr Jephson)

Carried

Council reconvened at 10:52am.

Ms Mitchell advised that Dr Jill McKenzie, Regional Public Health, agreed with Councils plan and preparations to temporarily chlorinate, and the proposed timeline.

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2019/75)

1. To receive the proposal to temporarily chlorinate the Martinborough water supply report.

(Moved Mayor Napier/Seconded Cr Olds)

Carried

2. That officers complete their investigation of the impact of chlorination on the vineyards and breweries in Martinborough and actions are undertaken by 13 May 2019 to ensure chlorination does not adversely impact the products from these businesses.

(Moved Cr Craig/Seconded Cr Jephson)

Carried

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3. That officers arrange temporary chlorination as soon as possible after recommendation two has been completed with a view to removing the boil water notice as soon as possible.

(Moved Cr Vickery/Seconded Cr Olds)

Carried

4. Action 271: Liaise with residents on dialysis machines and to ensure they are aware of the temporary chlorination decision; M Allingham
5. Action 272: Review whether carbon filters suitable for wineries could be purchased via Wellington Water, and whether interest free terms can be arranged; J Mitchell

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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