

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH  
ON WEDNESDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2024 AT 9:00 AM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Martin Connelly (Chair), Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter, Cr Martin Bosley, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Rebecca Gray (via Teams, from 9:02am), Cr Pip Maynard, Cr Kaye McAulay, Cr Colin Olds, Cr Alistair Plimmer and Cr Aaron Woodcock.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Paul Gardner (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Robyn Wells (Programme Manager, Local Water Done Well), Charly Clarke (Chief Financial Officer), and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).

**CONDUCT OF BUSINESS:** This meeting was held in the Supper Room, WaiHINGA Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and via audio-visual conference. This meeting was live-streamed is available to view on our YouTube channel. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 9:00am to 9:41am except where expressly noted.

## **OPEN SECTION**

### **1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

All those in attendance opened the meeting with a karakia.

### **2 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

### **3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No interests were disclosed relating to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

### **4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES**

There were no acknowledgements and tributes.

### **5 URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

## 6 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

### 6.1 LOCAL WATER DONE WELL

Ms Smith introduced the report and Ms Wells spoke to the background and matters included for decision on Local Water Done Well.

Cr Gray joined the meeting at 9:02am.

Council officers responded to queries from members regarding the commitment from the other councils included in the proposed arrangement; issues relating to Councils opting out at a later stage and the possible legal implications.

Ms Wells noted that the Terms of Reference will be updated and brought to Council in February 2025, which will include further details on what happens if a council decides to opt out of the proposed arrangement. Ms Wells also stated that the project team engaged legal early in the year to support the draft agreement.

Members queried the number of elected member appointments to the Advisory Oversight Group, removing ties to Wellington in the Terms of Reference, the inclusion of stormwater delivery.

Ms Smith noted that the issues relating to stormwater would be picked up later in the process as this relates to delivery and the report today addressed consultation only. Ms Wells also noted that the Advisory Oversight Group would address when developing the proposal, and all work completed so far in terms of financials include stormwater. Members who attended a workshop last week confirmed this matter was discussed and those present felt it was best to include stormwater in the upcoming consultation. Members also expressed the importance of information relating to assets for stormwater and what the implications were for discharging into water races should council be responsible for this (regulations/water quality standards).

Ms Smith noted the discussion today was about moving the organisation forward to prepare a consultation document for the new year.

Members discussed Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter's workload if appointed to the Advisory Oversight Group. It was agreed that further review of the Deputy Mayor's current appointments is required.

Members discussed issues relating to "user pays" with regard to stormwater, and stormwater generated from services. Ms Smith noted that stormwater is currently is CV based charged rate and the stormwater discharge is regulated – this would need to be consented (under national standards) if included for Council.

Members were provided assurance by council officers there will be further discussions in the new year relating to stormwater.

#### **ACTION 73**

Prepare a report to confirm the Deputy Mayor's current appointments and any recommendations for re-distribution to support workload.

*R Thomas / A Andersen*

**RESOLUTION DC2024/74**

**Moved: Mayor M Connelly**

**Seconded: Cr A Plimmer**

Council resolved to receive the *Local Water Done Well* report.

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION DC2024/75**

**Moved: Mayor M Connelly**

**Seconded: Cr A Plimmer**

Council resolved to:

1. Note that Council is making use of the alternative decision-making and consultation arrangements provided in the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024.
2. Note that the Local Government (Water Services) Bill which will establish the enduring settings for the new water system including the economic and regulatory oversight functions has been introduced into Parliament.
3. Note that the three Wairarapa district councils and Tararua District Council have agreed to consult their communities on the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option alongside their enhanced status quo options.
4. Note that the existing Project Terms of Reference agreed by the councils in July 2024 requires updating and officers will report to the February 2025 Council meeting with a full update.

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION DC2024/76**

**Moved: Mayor M Connelly**

**Seconded: Cr A Ellims**

Council resolved to agree that until the full update in February 2025, work to develop the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option continues under the existing Project Terms of Reference with two amendments:

- (a) To expand the membership of the Advisory Oversight Group to include two elected members from each council, one of which is to be the Mayor or Deputy Mayor; and
- (b) To include a delegation to the Advisory Oversight Group to develop a draft consultation document for the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option.

<p><b><u>In Favour:</u></b> Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr M Bosley, Cr A Ellims, Cr R Gray, Cr P Maynard, Cr K McAulay, Cr C Olds and Cr A Plimmer</p> <p><b><u>Against:</u></b> Cr A Woodcock</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED 9/1</b></p>
<p><b>RESOLUTION DC2024/77</b></p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Cr A Plimmer <b>Seconded:</b> Cr P Maynard</p> <p>Council resolved to agree that the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery model will be a Water Services Council Controlled Organisation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p><b>RESOLUTION DC2024/78</b></p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Cr A Plimmer <b>Seconded:</b> Cr C Olds</p> <p>Council resolved to agree to progress the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option to Include stormwater.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p><b>RESOLUTION DC2024/79</b></p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Cr A Plimmer <b>Seconded:</b> Cr C Olds</p> <p>Agrees to include options for price harmonisation in the consultation document for the Wairarapa + Tararua water services delivery option, including a prohibition against harmonisation for a 3 to 5-year period.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>
<p><b>RESOLUTION DC2024/80</b></p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Mayor M Connelly <b>Seconded:</b> Cr M Bosley</p> <p>Council resolved to appoint Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter and the current representative, Councillor Olds, to the Advisory Oversight Group.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>

**7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLUTION DC2024/81**

**Moved: Mayor M Connelly**

**Seconded: Cr A Ellims**

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

The general subject matter 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 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution	Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter
7.1 - Future Direction of Water Services	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	The report includes commercially sensitive information relating to a future tender for council services.

**CARRIED**

**8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 9:41am.

**Confirmed as a true and correct record.**

..... (Mayor)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)

..... (Date)