

**SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
Minutes from 16 March 2022**

- Present:** Mayor Alex Beijen (Chair), Deputy Mayor Garrick Emms, Councillors Pam Colenso, Rebecca Fox, Leigh Hay, Brian Jephson, Alistair Plimmer, Pip Maynard, Brenda West and Colin Olds.
- In Attendance:** Russell O’Leary (Group Manager Planning and Environment), Katrina Neems (General Manager Finance), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager Partnerships and Operations), Amanda Bradley (General Manager Policy and Governance), Sheil Priest (General Manager Communications and Engagement), Paul Gardner (General Manager HR and Corporate Services), Gary O’Meara (Water Consultant), Steph Frischknecht (Policy and Governance Advisor) and Amy Andersen (Committee Advisor).
- Conduct of Business:** Under the COVID-19 Protection Framework Red Traffic Light setting this meeting was held via video conference and live streamed to Council’s YouTube channel. All members participating via video conference count for the purpose of the meeting quorum in accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.
The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 3:00pm to 4.40pm except where expressly noted.
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Open Section

Cr Fox read the Council affirmation.

A1. Apologies

Members noted the apology of Chief Executive Harry Wilson.

A2. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

A3. Acknowledgements and Tributes

Cr Maynard acknowledged the passing of Isobel Garrity, wife of former Greytown Borough and South Wairarapa District Council Mayor John Garrity. Isobel was acknowledged for her contribution to the community.

Cr Olds and Cr Fox paid tribute to Garry Baker who had recently passed away. Mr Baker was acknowledged for his contribution to Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils and as a member of the Greytown Volunteer Fire Brigade.

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Until confirmed as a true and correct record, at a subsequent meeting, the minutes of this meeting should not be relied on as to their correctness

Cr Colenso acknowledged the passing of Robert Boyne, a farmer at Tora Station, who was acknowledged for his contribution to the community.

A4. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

A5. Actions from public participation

There were no actions from public participation.

A6. Extraordinary business

There was no extraordinary business.

B Decision Reports from Chief Executive and Staff

B1. Use of Additional Fiscal Stimulus for Wellington Water Limited Opex Budget

Mr Corbett spoke to matters as outlined in the report. Ms Neems, Mr Corbett and Mr O'Meara responded to members' questions on the implication of not proceeding, ability to introduce a reserve fund for water, historical overspend management, budget management, extent of Cyclone Dovi implications, compliance requirements, communication with councillors, impact on ratepayers, risk associated with reducing income and the reserve balance, funding options, and future budgets.

Ms Neems, with support from Mr Corbett, provided further information on the cost components and clarification of the reprioritisation of funding mechanism.

Members discussed the level of financial detail provided in the report, budget management, use of stimulus funding, implication for future years, and the need for asset condition scores and an asset management plan. Future budgets would be a matter for discussion going forward.

Members noted an objection to the following wording in the report: "Council is eligible to receive 'no worse off' funding during 22/23 and 23/24 which it could use as an option to meet the expected increased costs over LTP funding."

COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2022/10):

1. To receive Use of Additional Fiscal Stimulus for Wellington Water Limited Opex Budget Report.

(Moved Cr Fox/Seconded Cr Maynard)

Carried

2. Notes unconstrained 3 water OPEX costs are forecasted to be \$1.1M overspent in FY 2021/22.

(Moved Cr Plimmer/Seconded Cr Hay)

Carried

Cr West abstained

3. Approves that \$1M fiscal stimulus CAPEX be reprioritised to the SWDC OPEX budget to meet the forecast overspend.

(Moved Cr Olds/Seconded Jephson)

Carried

Cr West abstained

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4. Note that this will need to be replaced with additional CAPEX funding of \$1M and agree to refer options for funding of the \$1M CAPEX to the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee for a recommendation to Council on the method of funding.

(Moved Cr Colenso/Seconded Cr Plimmer)

Carried

Cr West abstained

5. Action 95: Request a full breakdown of cost overruns for financial year 2021/22 be provided to Council from Wellington Water Ltd, S Corbett.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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