



**SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Minutes from 17 December 2020**

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- Present:** Mayor Alex Beijen (Chair), Deputy Mayor Garrick Emms, Councillors Pam Colenso, Leigh Hay, Brian Jephson, Alistair Plimmer, and Brenda West.
- In Attendance:** Harry Wilson (Chief Executive), Euan Stitt (Partnerships and Operations Group Manager), Karen Yates (Policy and Governance Manager), Russell O’Leary (Planning and Environment Group Manager), Amy Wharram (Communications Manager), Godwell Mahowa (Planning Manager), Bryce Neems (Amenities and Waste Manager), Katrina Neems (Chief Financial Officer), Charly Clarke (Finance Manager), and Suzanne Clark (Committee Advisor).  
Via audio-visual link: John Whittal (Audit NZ) and Kelly Vatselias (Audit NZ).
- Conduct of Business:** The meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and was conducted in public between 12:30pm and 1:20pm except where expressly noted.
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**Open Section**

Cr Colenso read the Council affirmation.

**A1. Apologies**

*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2020/142)* to accept apologies from Cr Ross Vickery, Cr Pip Maynard, and Cr Rebecca Fox.

*(Moved Mayor Beijen/Seconded Cr West)*

Carried

**A2. Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

**A3. Acknowledgements and Tributes**

Cr West acknowledged the work Alan Maxwell had undertaken for the community. Mayor Beijen had also acknowledged his contribution at his farewell.

**A4. Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

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**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. Adoption of Annual Report 2019/2020**

Mr Whittal reported that Audit NZ had completed their audit for the current year and will issue an unmodified opinion for the financial statements and a qualified opinion on the statements of service performance. The qualified opinion was due to identification of some significant issues with the performance measures of Wellington Water of which SWDC was a joint shareholder.

Mr Whittal drew members attention to the Annual Report disclosures about performance against benchmarks and the impacts of COVID-19.

Mayor Beijen queried whether Audit NZ was taking a fair and accommodating view of Wellington Water measures noting Wellington Water had a differing opinion to Audit NZ. Mr Whittal advised that what was required in terms of evidence and guidelines was standard across all councils and all Wellington Water shareholder councils were affected.

The Summary of Information was not available, and as its adoption was not required by legislation, the recommendation to adopt the document was removed by the Chief Executive.

*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2020/143):*

1. To receive the Report.  
*(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Hay)* Carried
2. To adopt the tabled 2019/20 Annual Report.  
*(Moved Cr Hay/Seconded Cr Emms)* Carried
3. To delegate to the Mayor and Chief Executive to correct minor grammatical and other errors.  
*(Moved Mayor Beijen/Seconded Cr Hay)* Carried
4. To delegate to the Mayor and Chief Executive authority to sign this report.  
*(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Emms)* Carried

**B2. Externally Funded Projects – Approval to Proceed**

Members discussed regular project monitoring and oversight, contingency planning, the benefit to the South Wairarapa, project cessation if the tender outcome was not favourable, and the background of the application being made with members.

*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2020/144):*

1. To receive the Externally Funded Projects – Approval to Proceed Report.  
*(Moved Cr Colenso/Seconded Cr Emms)* Carried

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2. To note the potential financial risk for Council with the Tauherenikau Cycle Bridge and Hau Ariki Marae projects.
3. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive to enter into the contracts for the projects.

*(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Colenso)*

Carried

**B3. Increase of Service – Martinborough Transfer Station**

Members discussed the financial implications, undertaking changes to service in a measured way, whether the recommendation was urgent enough to bypass the committee structure, public requests for increased transfer station service, and whether consideration should be given to a wider service or waste review with officers.

Officers did not believe the request was material or required consultation and there was merit in providing increased services by January 2021.

*COUNCIL RESOLVED (DC2020/145):*

1. To receive the Increase of Service – Martinborough Transfer Station

*(Moved Cr Colenso/Seconded Cr Plimmer)*

Carried

2. To approve an increase in service of the Martinborough Transfer Station.

*(Moved Cr Jephson/Seconded Cr Hay)*

Carried

Cr West voted against the motion.

**Confirmed as a true and correct record**

.....(Mayor)

.....(Date)

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