

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH
ON WEDNESDAY, 20 AUGUST 2025 AT 11:15 AM**

PRESENT: Mayor Martin Connelly (Chair), Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter , Cr Martin Bosley, Cr Aidan Ellims (via MS Teams from 11:22am), Cr Pip Maynard, Cr Kaye McAulay, Cr Colin Olds and Cr Aaron Woodcock.

APOLOGIES: Cr Alistair Plimmer (attended PE session only - from 1:00pm)

IN ATTENDANCE: Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), James O'Connor (Acting Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Katherine Meerman (Programme Director - Local Water Done Well), Charly Clarke (Chief Financial Officer), Genevieve Drake (Principal Advisor, 3 Waters), Alex Pigou (Manager Communications) 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 11:15am to 2:10pm except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

All in attendance opened the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION DC2025/28

Moved: Cr A Woodcock

Seconded: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

Council resolved to accept apologies from Cr Plimmer and Cr Ellims.

CARRIED

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 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION DC2025/29

Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

Seconded: Cr C Olds

Council resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 25 June 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

7 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

7.1 ADOPTION OF THE WATER SERVICES DELIVERY PLAN

Ms Meerman spoke to the report and provided background, noting that all four Councils are considering plans for adoption also today.

Cr Ellims arrived at 11:22am.

Members acknowledged the work that has been completed over the term to make the best decisions within the framework provided by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA), noting that many options have been considered throughout the process and work between the four Councils to arrive at the proposed plan as presented today. Member also noted that costs and affordability have been at the core of Council's concerns as plans have been worked through.

Members also highlighted there have been some previous oversights regarding how land for discharging wastewater has been utilised and that requirements for consents have been granted with greater constraints, but there would be a greater focus on this in future.

Members commented on the lack of consideration of affordability from central government and more assistance being needed in this area, the inevitability of water reform, setting up the new Council for success and getting it right for the community.

Members noted the proposed plan is the follow-on work from the Local Water Done Well consultation, alongside the Long Term Plan, completed earlier this year. This proposed plan is the operational arm of those previous decisions made on 25 June (Wai+T model) and the next step toward transition and setting up the new water entity.

Members acknowledged the work of Councillors and Officers involved in the process up to this point.

Members acknowledged the Deputy Mayor's efforts to communicate concerns regarding affordability to central government.

Members highlighted the timeframes and constraints of the work laid out for councils in relation to water reform.

Members queries included: possible changes to the capital works programme; financing; what the decisions from today's meeting will mean for the transition (adopting the plan as it stands provides the best view of how to deliver water services, this commits Council to pick up implementation as it's set out in the report and some assumptions may be reviewed by the new water entity – recognising that a transition is coming); and the capital works programme for wastewater.

Members discussed the financial costs per user – refer to page 30 of the agenda for details.

Members noted that other options were more expensive than what has been proposed in the report.

Members noted there will be oversight of efficiencies and costs that will be conducted by an economic regulator.

Ms Meerman responded to questions regarding the average cost per residential household – noting the information in the report does not necessarily translate into the actual bill that will be received per household – further work will occur on how the new entity will structure charging over the next few years.

RESOLUTION DC2025/30

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

Council resolved to receive the Water Services Delivery Plan Adoption Report.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION DC2025/31

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Cr P Maynard

Council resolved to agree that the Water Services Delivery Plan for South Wairarapa District Council as part of a Wairarapa Tararua Water Services Organisation be submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs.

In Favour: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr M Bosley, Cr A Ellims, Cr R Gray, Cr P Maynard, Cr K McAulay and Cr C Olds

Against: Mayor M Connelly and Cr A Woodcock

CARRIED 7/2

RESOLUTION DC2025/32

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Cr P Maynard

Council resolved to agree the attached Commitment Agreement be submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs alongside the Water Services Delivery Plan.

In Favour: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr M Bosley, Cr A Ellims, Cr R Gray, Cr P Maynard, Cr K McAulay and Cr C Olds

Against: Mayor M Connelly and Cr A Woodcock

CARRIED 7/2

RESOLUTION DC2025/33

Moved: Cr A Ellims

Seconded: Cr M Bosley

Council resolved to delegate to the Chief Executive the ability to make final changes to the Water Services Delivery Plan, including any amendments resulting from review feedback provided by the Department of Internal Affairs, prior to Chief Executive certification of the plan and submission to the Department of Internal Affairs.

In Favour: Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr M Bosley, Cr A Ellims, Cr R Gray, Cr P Maynard, Cr K McAulay and Cr C Olds

Against: Cr A Woodcock

CARRIED 8/1

RESOLUTION DC2025/34

Moved: Cr C Olds

Seconded: Cr M Bosley

Council resolved to:

1. Approve \$1.25m of unbudgeted expenditure to meet South Wairarapa District Council's share of the Water Services Organisation establishment costs as set out in the Commitment Agreement; and
2. Note the unbudgeted expenditure will be capitalised and borrowed and transferred to the Water Services Organisation at go live as part of the Council's transfer of water-related debt.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

In Favour: Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr M Bosley, Cr A Ellims, Cr R Gray, Cr P Maynard, Cr K McAulay and Cr C Olds

Against: Cr A Woodcock

CARRIED 8/1

RESOLUTION DC2025/35

Moved: Cr P Maynard

Seconded: Cr A Ellims

Council resolved to delegate to the Chief Executive the ability to prepare the Water Services Organisation Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement in line with the commercial agreements appended to the Commitment Agreement

<u>In Favour:</u>	Mayor M Connelly, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr M Bosley, Cr A Ellims, Cr R Gray, Cr P Maynard, Cr K McAulay and Cr C Olds
<u>Against:</u>	Cr A Woodcock
CARRIED 8/1	
RESOLUTION DC2025/36 Moved: Mayor M Connelly Seconded: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter Council resolved to note that final form versions of the Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement will be brought back to the Council for approval.	
CARRIED	

8 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION DC2025/37 Moved: Cr A Woodcock Seconded: Cr M Bosley 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
8.1 - Recommendations from CEO Employment Committee	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	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	Relates to reports and discussions on personal employment details and issues.

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 12:24pm.

Meeting resumed at 1:00pm.

9 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:10pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Mayor)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)