

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
EXTRAORDINARY STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH
ON WEDNESDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2024 AT 10:00 AM**

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Cr Alistair Plimmer, Cr Aaron Woodcock, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Martin Bosley, Cr Colin Olds, Mayor Martin Connelly, Cr Pip Maynard, Cr Kaye McAulay, Cr Rebecca Gray and Ms Violet Edwards.

IN ATTENDANCE: Janice Smith (Chief Executive), Rob Thomas (Manager, Stakeholder Relationships), Nicki Ansell (Lead Projects & Policy Advisor), Alex Pigou (Team Lead, 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 10:01am to 10:52am except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter opened the meeting.

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 REPRESENTATION REVIEW DELIBERATIONS

Cr Plimmer queried the mandate to change representation with the volume of submissions received from the community.

Ms Ansell provided further information directions and reasons required to progress decisions.

Ms Ansell, supported by Mr Thomas, spoke to the matters included in the report, confirmed the correction on page 7 of the agenda and provided confirmation of the process required to provide an initial proposal to the Local Government Commission (LGC), as outlined in the report.

Cr Olds queried whether there was a conflict of interest for current Community Board members. Following clarification from Ms Smith, there were no conflicts identified.

Cr Plimmer suggested status quo for representation based on the volume of submissions received, noting this was a small sample compared to the population, and put forward an amendment to the recommendation. Mayor Connelly seconded the proposal for status quo.

Noted that representation under status quo means: Mayor, three Councillors per ward (Greytown, Featherston and Martinborough), three Community Boards for each ward – 4 elected members per Board, one Māori Ward Councillor.

Ms Smith explained the process for decision making, and that the Committee must go through this process in order to provide the LGC (via recommendations to Council) a mandated proposal.

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter explained the options that could be put forward to the LGC.

Members discussed their understanding and views of the options.

Ms Ansell noted for communities of interest (e.g. rural / coastal) that the Council needed to be clear if they are not providing specific representation for them and why. Ms Ansell reiterated the need to step through communities of interest and help the public understand why they are making decisions these days and what representation may look like in future.

Members discussed the proposed amendment to maintain status quo for representation which included: the communities of interest (rural/coastal); the make-up of the submissions and rationale of alternative proposals; rural ward representation and opportunities/ability for members of the public to stand for Council in elections; whether at large councillors could be rural at large councillors instead; the requirements and work involved to create a rural ward, appetite for change for rural communities to support specific issues facing community members today.

Ms Ansell noted that for a rural ward, boundary lines would need to change – creating a general ward for rural, further work would be required including population data work with Stats NZ and contractors to confirm boundary lines, also noting that this would impact on census as well.

Members discussed the work completed in the lead up to the meeting today, including workshops and the consultation.

Members discussed the feedback received during the consultation and hearings, such as the focus on issues with rates rather than representation; whether a Rural/Coastal Advisory Group may be a better option than a rural ward.

All members at the table spoke in relation to the recommendations before voting on the proposal of status quo.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/107

Moved: Cr A Plimmer

Seconded: Cr A Ellims

The *Strategy Working Committee* resolved to receive the Representation Review Deliberations Report.

CARRIED

<p>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/108</p> <p>AMENDMENT</p> <p>Moved: Cr A Plimmer Seconded: Mayor M Connolly</p> <p>That Strategy Working Committee resolved to accept status quo for the Final Proposal for representation to be made via resolution at the Council meeting 30 October 2024.</p> <p><u>In Favour:</u> Cr A Plimmer, Cr A Woodcock, Cr A Ellims, Cr M Bosley, Mayor M Connolly, Cr P Maynard, Ms V Edwards and Cr K McAulay</p> <p><u>Against:</u> Cr C Olds and Cr R Gray</p> <p><u>Abstained:</u> Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 8/2</p> <p>The amendment became the substantive resolution.</p>
<p>COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2024/109</p> <p>AMENDMENT</p> <p>Moved: Cr C Olds Seconded: Cr A Ellims</p> <p>The <i>Strategy Working Committee</i> resolved to direct the Chief Executive to bring a report to the Committee on a Rural/Coastal Advisory Group</p> <p style="text-align: right;">.CARRIED</p> <p>The amendment became the substantive resolution.</p>

7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 10:52am.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Chair)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)

..... (Date)