
MINUTES
of the
NELSON REGIONAL SEWERAGE BUSINESS UNIT MEETING
held
2.30 pm, Friday, 15 September 2017
at
Ruma Marama, Nelson City Council

Present: Michael Higgins (Tasman District Council representative (Chair))
Councillor C M Maling (Tasman District Council)
Councillors T Skinner and S Walker (Nelson City Council)
P Wilson (Industry Customer's Representative)

In Attendance: Engineering Services Manager (R J Kirby), NRSBU General Manager
(J Robinson), Executive Assistant (K Redgrove), Tasman District Council

Senior Asset Engineer (J Thiant), Nelson City Council

1 OPENING, WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Mr Higgins/Cr Walker

That the minutes of the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit meeting held on Friday, 30 June 2017, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 REPORTS

7.1 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr Kirby led the meeting through the General Manager's report. He noted the abberational discharge consent issue which covers 'accidental discharge'. Modelling from a previous incident is being used to assist with this process.

Mr Thiart clarified how this modelling ran against the current incident. He described this mathematical-based modelling as complex.

Mr Kirby confirmed that the Commercial Manager, Gene Cooper had now left Tasman District Council. His replacement, Mark Johanssen (Property Services Manager) has only recently started and is yet to receive a full briefing on the issues covered by this Committee regarding forest growth and quality. Information on these matters is required for the biosolid discharge consent renewal.

Bell Island Treatment Plant – Discharge Consent Renewal

The meeting discussed the engineering and technical aspects that may have to be covered off to satisfy the requirements of local iwi.

The results of the **NRSBU customer survey** were discussed. It was noted that costs in this region could not be directly comparable to other Districts where discharge consents have not progressed to the level of NRSBU consents.

Mr Kirby referred to the recent valuation and clarified questions raised by Mr Wilson on the reported figures. It was noted the gross replacement cost had increased between 2014-2017.

A change has occurred in the percentage revaluation movement per annum. Mr Thiart explained how the costs were calculated and their scope. The current figure reflects present day costs. Mr Wilson expressed concerns at the accuracy of the figures. He will liaise with Mr Thiart to go through the detail.

The meeting reviewed the NRSBU Annual Report which was annexed to the General Manager's report. The variations marked against Environmental Impacts results were clarified.

Moved Cr Walker/Cr Maling

NRSBU17-09-01

That the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit Committee receives the report NRSBU General Manager's Report NRSBU 17-09-01,

CARRIED

Moved Cr Walker/Cr Skinner

NRSBU17-09-02

That the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit Committee adopts the draft Annual Report to be forwarded to Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council for consideration.

CARRIED

7.2 NRSBU Asset Management Plan

It was agreed the Executive Summary within the Asset Management Plan picked up the main points of this document. The meeting reviewed the Plan, and discussed the contents. The salient points of that discussion follow:

- Noted there is no iwi representative at present. An understanding of iwi values was considered to be desirable in the absence of any formal appointment. The newly appointed Chief Executive of Nelson City could prove to be a good driver for the appointment of an iwi representative at Council level.
- Mr Thiart explained that the 'spikes' shown on the Environmental Monitoring graphs are impacted by algae growth in the Summer months. The installation of new equipment is expected to result in a decrease in these levels.

Cr Skinner left the meeting at 3.35 pm

- Regarding stormwater infiltration, Mr Higgins asked whether Nelson City Council is considering a pressurised wastewater system. Mr Thiart confirmed it has been mooted as an option but there is no related workstream underway.
- Mr Kirby reported on the availability of small remote monitoring devices that could be used on flow meters so there is real time measurement at times of heavy rainfall and problems can quickly be identified. There is an acceleration of technology in this area. Mr Kirby suggested the availability of this new technology could be a good opportunity for the two Councils to collaborate.

Cr Skinner returned to the meeting at 3.43 pm

- Trialling of sludge bags was not generally successful. Mr Thiart believed that with better controls and monitoring it may have gone better but did not consider it was an option at this point. The new aerators will be re-evaluated to assess their performance. Options for disposal of sludge will continue to be explored and developed.
- The Board considered the impact of earthquake or tsunami damage to the NRSBU assets and noted the resilience of the treatment process presently used.
- The meeting accepted Councils should be demonstrating a higher awareness of the impact of natural disasters on assets and risks that could arise. It was recognised that in the event of a major natural disaster, the Councils would work closely with Civil Defence on the operation and management of wastewater assets.

It was agreed a detailed note of the amendments to the draft Asset Management Plan would be kept with the minutes. Mr Kirby and Mr Thiart would collaborate to produce this document.

**Moved Mr Higgins/Cr Walker
NRSBU17-09-03**

That the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit Asset Management Plan be adopted, as amended.

CARRIED

A.1 NRSBU - Annual Financial Statements

Mr Thiart spoke to the report and noted that the auditors had approved the financial statements.

Moved Cr Skinner/Cr Maling

NRSBU17-09-04

That the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit

- 1. receives the NRSBU - Annual Financial Statements report; and**
- 2. approves the NRSBU – Annual Financial Statements**

8 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

The meeting concluded at 4.30 pm

Date Confirmed:

Chair: