
MINUTES
of the
NELSON-TASMAN REGIONAL LANDFILL BUSINESS UNIT
MEETING
held
9.30 am, Friday, 7 December 2018
at
Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

Present: Councillors S Walker (Chair) and I Barker, Nelson City Council
Councillors S G Bryant and C M Maling, Tasman District Council

In Attendance: Acting General Manager (D Clifford)

Team Leader, Stormwater and Waste Management (D Stephenson) and
Executive Assistant (R L Scherer), Tasman District Council

Management Accountant (A Bishop), Nelson City Council

1 OPENING, WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies

3 PUBLIC FORUM

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr Bryant/Cr Barker
RLBU18-12-18

That the minutes of the Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit meeting held on Monday, 27 August 2018 and the minutes of the Extraordinary Nelson-Tasman Regional

Landfill Business Unit meeting held on Tuesday, 30 October 2018, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meetings.

CARRIED

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 REPORTS

7.1 Acting General Manager's Update Report

Acting General Manager. Don Clifford spoke to the report contained in the agenda which was taken as read.

Mr Clifford noted the recent health and safety incident at the Eves Valley landfill where a machine had overturned. The staff member driving the machine was relatively unhurt. Mr Clifford said that work on the site has been halted while a formal investigation is carried out. Work will not resume until both councils are satisfied that the contractor has a policy in place to ensure this type of accident does not recur.

Mr Clifford said that stage 2 of the Eves Valley landfill has adequate capping so there is no urgency in recommencing the work.

Mr Clifford said that the health and safety investigation report will be circulated to the committee when it becomes available.

Finance

Management Accountant, Andrew Bishop noted that with increased volumes to the landfill there was a corresponding increase in income. The increase is the result of higher than normal economic activity and one-off items such as the dumping of sludge from the Nelson North wastewater treatment plant. The increase in income is offset by costs directly relating to increased volumes, including waste management levy and emissions trading scheme costs.

Mr Bishop noted that Treasury's recommended discount rate for calculating net present value was lower than had been previously used and this will mean that some future costs will be higher than anticipated. These extra costs will need to be recovered over the next ten years and this will result in pressure on future landfill costs.

The Chairman suggested that with the increase in new development in the region it is likely that there will be a corresponding growth in landfill volumes coming from the building sector.

Team Leader, Stormwater and Waste Management, David Stephenson noted that waste per head of population in 2015-2016 was 560 kgs, and higher than that in previous years. Staff also forecast that there will be an increase in kilograms of waste per person in this current financial year.

The meeting discussed the correlation between volumes of waste going to landfill and the fees and charges for disposing of that waste. This will be a focal point of discussion at a committee workshop early in 2019.

Cr Barker spoke about the recent Nelson City Council resident's survey which showed a decrease in the number of residents who compost either their food waste or garden waste. He suggested that this decrease is not helpful to the councils waste minimisation efforts.

Mr Stephenson spoke about the recent WasteMINZ conference where the waste levy was

discussed. He noted that the Government is keen to broaden the waste management levy to include landfills that had not previously been levied. He also said that any increase in the levy will require public consultation and he does not expect it to change in the next two years. Mr Stephenson said that the Government was putting more focus on environmental harm especially around emissions liability.

Mr Clifford suggested that the emissions trading scheme levy is likely to increase in the near future.

Mr Clifford advised the committee of an issue on the western side of the York Valley landfill where there is a risk of stormwater getting into landfill. Mr Clifford said that staff had arranged with a contractor to design a solution and this is expected to cost in the vicinity of \$500,000. He also noted that there was some urgency to get the work done.

Mr Clifford also spoke about the stormwater issue at York Valley where water discharges into the settling ponds which are under-sized. There is a resultant risk that water with sediment could then enter the York Stream. He suggested that this issue be discussed at the workshop so that the committee can understand the problem and see what can be done to remedy it.

Mr Clifford noted that the consultant's annual monitoring report for York Valley had been received and included some recommendations which he will implement. A similar report for Eves Valley also included some recommendations and Mr Clifford estimated that the cost to implement these would be in the vicinity of \$50,000. The committee agreed that Mr Clifford should look into the option of using one consultant to undertake the annual monitoring at both York Valley and Eves Valley.

Mr Clifford reported that the Asset Management Plan would be presented to both councils for their approval early in 2019.

Mr Clifford noted that the landfill operations and maintenance contract has been awarded to Downer and he is very encouraged by the proactive and passionate stance the Downer team have regarding refuse management. Mr Clifford said that the new compactor has been ordered and delivery is expected in the next six months.

Mr Clifford advised the committee that due to changes in personnel, staff had been unable to meet the required dates for presenting the Business Plan. He said the proposed local disposal levy payable to both councils this financial year will be \$2.4 million.

The committee members discussed the use of landfill gas from York Valley. Mr Clifford noted that finding the right process to extract the gas had taken some time. Mr Clifford said that he would talk to the environmental team at Nelson City Council to get their views on how we can optimise the use of the landfill gas.

The Chairman suggested that there was a "ready" customer close to the Eves Valley who may be interested in an opportunity to use gas in their operations.

The Chairman confirmed that the committee would meet for a workshop in early February 2019. He asked Mrs Scherer to arrange a suitable date.

**Moved Cr Maling/Cr Barker
RLBU18-12-19**

That the Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit:

- 1. receives the Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit General Manager's Report; and**

2. **notes the acceptance of the tender from Downer New Zealand Ltd for the contract to manage the Operation and Maintenance of the York Valley and Eves Valley Landfills; and**
3. **instructs the Acting General Manager to arrange a workshop for Committee members in the New Year to discuss and develop the Business Plan for 2019/2020**

CARRIED

8 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

The meeting concluded at 10.37 am.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: