
Minutes of a meeting of the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit

Held in Ruma Marama, Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson

On Friday 13 March 2015, commencing at 1.02pm

Present: Councillors M Higgins (Chairperson) and B Dowler (Tasman District Council)

In Attendance: M Hippolite (Iwi Representative), P Wilson (Industry Customers' Representative), Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit General Manager (R Kirby), Senior Asset Engineer – Solid Waste (J Thiart), Management Accountant (A Bishop), and Administration Adviser (G Brown)

Apologies: Mr D Shaw and Councillor Copeland

1. Apologies

Resolved

THAT apologies be received and accepted from Mr Derek Shaw and Councillor Copeland.

Dowler/Higgins

Carried

2. Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

3. Interests

Councillors Higgins and Dowler declared an interest in item 5 General Manager's Report in relation to the Tasman District Council (TDC), Coastal Occupation Charges draft Plan Change.

4. Confirmation of Minutes – 28 November 2014

Document number A1281366, agenda pages 4-9 refer.

Resolved

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit, held on 28 November 2014, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Dowler/Higgins

Carried

5. Status Report

Document number A452094, agenda pages 10 refers.

General Manager, Richard Kirby advised there was an error in the status report under number 5 the date should read 26 March 2015 and not 16 March 2015.

In response to a question, Senior Asset Engineer – Solid Waste, Johan Thiart advised that the capacity review would be discussed at the meeting scheduled for the 26th March 2015 and that he would resend a copy of the Capacity Review to the business unit.

In response to a further question, Mr Kirby advised that the ultimate aim would be a reduction in plant charges at the Bells Island Wastewater Treatment Plan. He added that revenue was trending down.

It was noted that Nelson City Council, Council officer, Andrew Bingham should join the meeting scheduled for the 26 March 2015.

Resolved

THAT the Status Report dated 13 March 2015 (A452094) be received with the amendment of the date to 26 March 2015 under number 5.

Dowler/Higgins

Carried

6. General Manager's Report

Document number A1313458, agenda pages 11-60 refer.

General Manager, Richard Kirby presented the report.

It was noted that Councillor Higgins and Dowler had an interest with the draft Plan Change Coastal Occupational Charges and this needed to be recorded in the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit (NRSBU) Interests Register.

There was a discussion that iwi and industries would be making a submission in relation to the draft Plan Change.

It was discussed that utilities under Tasman District Council (TDC) would be rated for the first time in the Long Term Plan (LTP) and it was mentioned that Nelson City were proposing to rate 50% of stormwater on Capital Value.

In response to a question, Senior Asset Engineer – Solid Waste, Johan Thiart advised that the linings that were installed in the ATAD's in 2013 and 2014 had failed. Mr Thiart added that there was adequate capacity with only two sludge tanks and the costs per tank was \$80,000.

In response to a further question, Mr Thiart said that the increase of boundaries in the ko-iwi areas did not materially affect operations. He added that trees would be cut to ground level to reduce disturbance of these areas. However he believed that the biosolids trial had run its course.

Peak tide maximum loads were discussed in relation to the Load Agreement – ENERNOC and it was suggested that further investigation was required to identify whether peaks could be shaved. It was suggested that a further conversation with ENERNOC was needed in relation to these efficiencies.

In response to a question, Mr Thiart said the non compliance within the Key Performance Indicators table was due to operator error and confirmed that a checklist system was already in place. It was asked why iwi were not informed about this overflow, and Mr Thiart advised that he would investigate and report back at the next meeting.

There was a discussion regarding the pump stations power use in relation to the graph shown in Figure 10.2 and it was highlighted that the peaks were from storm events.

Resolved

THAT the report General Manager's Report (A1313458) and its attachments (A1319962, A1320206 and A1324144) be received.

Dowler/Higgins

Carried

7. Finance Report

Document number A1263549, agenda pages 61-62 refer.

Management Accountant, Andrew Bishop presented the report.

In response to a question, Mr Bishop said that calculations were underway in relation to charges on stakeholders for fixed and variable contributions. He said that customers would pay variable costs based on the previous year's usage.

In response to a further question, Mr Bishop advised that the NRSBU fixed contract was still relevant and it was beneficial to have this contract in-house.

It was requested that Mr Bishop provide an indication of the time spent on this contact and inform the business unit.

There was a discussion regarding the two pump stations which could potentially overflow into the Maitai River and a question was asked as to when was the last time this had happened. General Manager , Richard Kirby advised he would need to investigate and then pass this information on to the business unit.

Resolved

THAT the Nelson regional Sewerage Business unit Financial report for the period ending 31 January 2015 (A1263549).

Higgins/Dowler

Carried

There being no further business the meeting ended at 2.17pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings:

_____ Chairperson _____ Date