
MINUTES
of the
NELSON-TASMAN REGIONAL LANDFILL BUSINESS UNIT
MEETING
held
9.30 am, Friday, 15 September 2017
at
Ruma Marama, Nelson City Council, Nelson

Present: Councillors S Walker (Chair) and I Barker (Nelson City Council)
Councillors S Bryant and CM Maling (Tasman District Council)

In Attendance: Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit General Manager (J Robinson), Senior Asset Engineer (J Thiart), Contract Supervisor (G Poxon), Asset Engineer – Waste Management and Minimisation (D Stephenson) and Executive Assistant (P Francis)

Part Attendance:

1 OPENING, WELCOME

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Although not Committee members, the following people provided apologies for non-attendance: A Bishop, Management Accountant (Nelson City Council), M McGlinchey, Management Accountant (Tasman District Council), R Kirby, Engineering Services Manager (Tasman District Council), A Louverdis, General Manager – Infrastructure (Nelson City Council) and R Scherer, Executive Assistant (Tasman District Council)

Moved Cr Bryant/Barker
RLBU17-09-1

That apologies be accepted.
CARRIED

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Moved Cr Maling/Walker
RLBU17-09-2**

That the minutes of the Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit meeting held on Thursday, 15 June 2017, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting noting that the statement below is incorrect and has been struck from the minutes and explained by the note below.

~~Mr Stephenson said that the Tasman District Council's contract with Smart Environmental for disposal of Buller District waste at landfill will be novated to the NTRLBU and this will be confirmed at the next meeting.~~¹

¹Note – the NTRLBU is not a legal entity and therefore the contract cannot be novated to the NTRLBU.

CARRIED

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 REPORTS

The Chair confirmed that matters arising from the last meeting would be dealt with through the agenda today.

Mr Robinson spoke to the report contained in the agenda which was taken as read. As this is his first report he would appreciate feedback from the Committee on the level of content and if more or less information is required.

Mr Robinson and Mr Poxon confirmed that there have been no reported health and safety incidents during July and August at either landfill.

Mr Robinson overviewed the attachment to the report (Attachment 1) on the interpretation of some of the terms in the Deed of Agreement and the Terms of Reference for the NTRLBU.

He drew the Committee's attention in particular to the following:

- That there is a requirement to include one iwi advisor on the group and that Nelson City Council is working through a process for this guided by the Nelson City Council Kaihatu.
- A full draft Business Plan will be presented post the December 2017 meeting and key financial figures will be available by 31 October. By December it is intended that the financials will have been refined in conjunction with development of the Activity Management Plan.

In response to a question on whether there is sufficient money in the financials for the NTRLBU to do all the things it wished to do, discussion turned to whether the methane gas produced by the Eve's Valley landfill could be captured. It was agreed options need to be discussed. Mr Stephenson explained there was some previous work on this option done when the price of carbon dioxide emissions was around \$15 per tonne. Then the Government moved to allow purchase of overseas carbon credits instead, which meant council's liability for methane emissions was lower, and there was no financial incentive for Tasman District Council to capture methane

and dispose of it. With recent changes, production options are now much more cost effective. Mr Thiart explained that when the landfill is closed there are emissions but no liability. General agreement from all for the need to explore potential options for management and/or capture in the future.

In response to a question on the financials attached to the report and in particular the \$120,000 for aftercare amortisation for Eves Valley costs, Mr Thiart and Mr Robinson explained (in Mr Bishop's absence) that this was to fund resource consent requirements related to the closure of the landfill and for monitoring after closure. Mr Stephenson noted that with the switch of the landfills, the capital cost for closure has come forward and adjustment is required for this.

Mr Robinson emphasised that a key component in the financials is the disposal fees and the challenge moving forward will be setting the right fees noting the commitment of both councils to minimise solid waste disposal.

Mr Robinson also tabled an updated financial report for the income account for the period to 31 July 2017, as well as an updated balance sheet.

In response to a question on how the interest was being funded, Mr Robinson suggested that Mr Bishop would be the best person to explain this.

Mr Poxon provided an update on operational matters at York Valley landfill since the transition to accepting increased volume. One transitional measure was additional staff resourcing for the first two weeks of operation, after which this was reviewed, and scaled back as it was established that existing practices had not been compromised by the additional loads at the landfill. However the increased volume has put pressure on the contract operators to manage the landfill face using the same resources of plant and labour that were available to the contractor prior to 1 July 2017. They have advised that two staff is not adequate and three are needed. There are also additional charges for handling contaminated and hazardous material. Extra costs amount to approximately \$49,000 per year and will be resolved through a variation to the existing contract.

It was suggested that Mr Bishop provide a more detailed explanation of the financials including the balance sheet at the December meeting.

Mr Robinson explained that the draft Annual Business Plan will be available in December. Once approved it will be forwarded to councils for feedback, to be finalised in March 2018. For the current year we will use year one of the 10 year financial forecast as our budget.

A consultant will be engaged to assist with preparation of the Activity Management Plan.

In response to a question on the impact on traffic movements due to the increased volume going to the York Valley landfill, Mr Poxon confirmed there have been no complaints. He did note himself yesterday that there is some deterioration to the road surface of Market Road, however this is due to be resealed this season. It is not just damage from the landfill but also damage from Fulton Hogan quarry loads.

With regard to the new landfill disposal charges, the committee agreed that early communication is important, and agreed with the suggestion of a regular newsletter.

Mr Robinson explained that the resource consent for Stage 2 of the Eve's Valley landfill has been on hold since 2015. We have instructed our consultant to prepare the necessary documentation to update the 2015 submission and continue the consent process. This will include an ability to accept up to one year's waste from the Nelson-Tasman region in case of an unforeseen temporary closure of the York Valley landfill. It is prudent to have this option as an emergency response. In response to a question on whether this will require two consents, Mr Robinson confirmed that they will be combined into one.

In response to a question on whether other valleys at York Valley could be opened up for use, Mr Robinson explained that the terms of reference state that once the current valley at York is full, operations are to move to Eves Valley for Stage 3.

Mr Robinson explained the next tasks to be undertaken at Eves Valley landfill. The most significant work will be opening up a borrow pit to provide the material to finish off the 1.0 metre thick capping layer. This work will cost approximately \$500,000. Mr Stephenson explained that PF Olsen will be harvesting the forest in this area soon. Future conversations will need to be had with PF Olsen around whether they replant in that area and plant a border to provide screening.

In response to a question on whether green waste was taken to the York Valley landfill, Mr Thiart explained that contaminated green fill is taken as well as treated and untreated sawdust. This is stockpiled and used as day cover when needed.

The committee requested that Mrs Scherer check the Councillors schedules and contact the other Committee members to find a suitable date and time for a visit in October or November to the York Valley landfill.

7.1 General Manager's Update

**Moved Bryant/Cr Maling
RLBU17-09-3**

That the Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit receives the General Manager's Update report.

CARRIED

The meeting concluded at 10.49am as there were no further items to discuss.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: