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**MINUTES**  
of the  
**NELSON REGIONAL SEWERAGE BUSINESS UNIT MEETING**  
held  
**Friday, 30 June 2017**  
at  
**Nelson City Council, Council Chamber, Civic House,  
110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson**

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

**In Attendance:** General Manager (R J Kirby), Senior Project Manager (J Robinson) and  
Executive Assistant (R L Scherer), Tasman District Council  
Senior Asset Engineer (J Thiant) and Management Accountant (A Bishop),  
Nelson City Council

**1 OPENING, WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Moved Walker/Cr Skinner**  
**NRSBU17-06-1**

**That apologies from Cr C M Maling be accepted.**  
**CARRIED**

**3 PUBLIC FORUM**

Nil

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

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## 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Mr Higgins/Cr Walker

NRSBU17-06-2

**That the minutes of the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit held on 10 March 2017 be accepted as a true and correct record**

**CARRIED**

## 6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

## 7 REPORTS

### 7.1 General Managers Update Report

Mr Kirby spoke to the report contained in the agenda.

He noted that the NRSBUs legal advisers had referred to the **accidental discharge consent** as an **aberrational discharge consent**. Mr Kirby advised that there had been a marked drop in aberrational discharges from the NRSBU reticulation and pumpstations.

The members discussed the different discharge requirements of the two regional management plans in terms of controlled activity versus prohibited activity.

The costs of the aberrational discharge consent application could be up to \$250,000.

Mr Kirby spoke about the upcoming study by SCION looking at the effects and benefits of the biosolids application to the forestry plantation at Moturoa Island. He noted that that Tasman District Council had questioned the sharing of costs for this study. The members urged Mr Kirby to ask Tasman District Council to reconsider their contribution to the cost of the SCION study and to reinforce the economic benefits of the biosolids application on their forest resource.

Mr Kirby advised that staff were applying for a 35-year consent for renewal of the Bell Island Discharge Consent and that the consent application was likely to cost around \$500,000.

In response to a question about odour discharges, Mr Thiart noted that since the upgrade in 2004, odour discharges had decreased. He also noted that often odour complaints are associated with Bell Island when in fact they emanate from something else, for example dead fish or baleage.

In response to a question, Mr Thiart advised that the Cawthron Institute report on mussel monitoring was available on the Nelson City Council website.

Mr Thiart spoke about a recent trade waste issue where a very large amount of fat had caused blockages in the primary sludge transfer pipeline and affected the sludge transfer processes. He noted that the source of the fat had been identified and the Council is working with the company responsible.

In response to a question about how sources of contaminants are traced, Mr Thiart advised that the Unit had a database which identifies what companies are likely to discharge what contaminants.

Mr Thiart noted that there had been two overflows in last twelve months.

In response to a question about the number of visitors to the Bell Island site, Mr Thiart noted that this increase was due to the number of building crews on site.

Mr Bishop explained the \$250,000 variance in costs versus budget and noted that both operating costs and income have increased.

In response to a question, Mr Thiart confirmed that the Unit has a very good deal for the purchase of electricity which is sourced via a group scheme of the two councils.

Mr Thiart noted that Argentine Ants are currently in hibernation and staff will have to wait until October to see if they return to the site.

**Moved Walker/Cr Skinner**

**NRSBU17-06-2**

**That the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit Committee receives the report NRSBU General Manager's Report, NRSBU17-06-01 and its attachments.**

**CARRIED**

**8 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

Nil

The meeting concluded at 1.50 pm

Date Confirmed:

Chair: