MINUTES

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date:	**Thursday, 11 June 2026**
Time:	**10.00am**
Venue:	**Council Chamber** **Rangitīkei District Council** **46 High Street** **Marton**

Present	HWTM Andy Watson Cr Dave Wilson Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa Cr Coral Raukawa Cr Jeff Wong Cr Fi Dalgety Cr Paul Sharland Cr Alan Buckendahl Cr Diana Baird Cr John Hainsworth Cr Sandra Field Cr Graeme O'Fee
In attendance	Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive Mr Arno Benadie, Deputy Chief Executive Ms Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager – Corporate Services Ms Katrina Gray, Group Manager – Strategy, Community and Democracy Ms Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager Mr Darryn Black, Roading Transport Manager Ms Crystal Johnston, Executive Assistant – Group Managers

Order of Business

1 Welcome / Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting at 10.00am and Cr Baird read the Council prayer.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/103

That the apologies from Cr P Hiroa, Cr F Dalgety be received.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr P Sharland. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Baird declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 12 and did not participate in the discussion or vote.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change in the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/104

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 May 2026 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Annual Plan Consultation

Members discussed the cost of undertaking the Annual Plan consultation process. Officers advised that the estimated cost is approximately $50,000, noting that this primarily reflects internal staff time rather than additional expenditure. It was explained that, if staff were not undertaking Annual Plan consultation activities, they would instead be carrying out other organisational work.

<u>Bulls District Community Trust</u>

A member queried whether the BCDT action should be included within the visible action register. Officers advised that the action is currently recorded within the administrative action register rather than the publicly visible register. Members expressed a preference for the action to be included in the visible action register to improve transparency and tracking.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/105

That the report Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

Mayor's Report - June 2026

Letters of congratulations have been prepared for Elizabeth Mortland on receiving the King's Service Medal, and for Rodney Wong in recognition of his contributions, noting he is not a district resident but remains actively involved.

Community meetings regarding local government reform are currently being planned. Due to the prescribed timeframes, there is limited opportunity for detailed analysis of Council's potential position before engagement commences.

An update was provided on the Central Districts Water Joint Shareholders Committee. Discussions between the shareholder councils are progressing towards formalising the Statement of Expectations. A series of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) between CDW and the shareholder councils is also being developed.

A member expressed support for the Mayor's comments and acknowledged the thorough flow of information being provided back to Council.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/106

That the Mayor's Report – June 2026 be received.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/107

That Council approves the following recommendations from the Central Districts Water Joint Shareholders Committee Meeting held on 22 May 2026:

1. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee report the progress of its work to each of the Councils and Ngā Tapūwae o Hau, twice a year, and that the Chair of the Committee present those reports.
2. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee review its reporting frequency after 12 months.

3. That the Joint Shareholders’ Committee minutes be circulated according to the process set out in Table 1.
4. That any Joint Shareholders’ Committee recommendations be put to each of the Councils by the Joint Shareholders’ Committee representatives for that Council.

HWTM/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

9 Chief Executive’s Report

Chief Executive's Report - June 2026

Central Districts Water Update

Discussion was held on the proposed amendments relating to Central Districts Water.

Extra Funding for February 2026 Storm

Council considered additional funding required as a result of the February weather event. Officers advised that all available options had been explored to avoid external borrowing, however borrowing was now considered necessary.

Council discussed implications of front-loading borrowing and the FAR rate.

The Council meeting and livestream were adjourned at 10.23am due to technical difficulties and resumed at 10.25am.

Duck Crossing Petition – Request for Signage

Council received correspondence relating to a request for duck crossing signs on Calico Line. Officers advised the submission did not meet the requirements to be considered a formal petition due to an insufficient number of signatures. However, as it had been addressed to Council, it was appropriate to formally acknowledge it.

Discussion acknowledged the current budget pressures on the roading programme. It was suggested that the Marton Community Committee could consider funding one or more signs through its Small Projects Fund, with the estimated cost of two signs being less than $1,000.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/108

That the report Chief Executive’s Report – June 2026 be received.

Cr P Sharland/Cr D Baird. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/109

That Council notes the minor and non-material changes that were approved by the Chief Executive to the Shareholders’ Agreement and the Constitution, in accordance with the delegated authority provided by Council.

Cr D Baird/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/110

That Council does approve to fund the local share cost of $105,106 for damaged sustained on the roading network following the 15-16 February 2026 weather event. The local share will be funded from external borrowing and repaid via roading rates in 2027/28 - 2028/29 at approximately $55,000 per annum.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried Unanimous

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/111

That the Chief Executive present the signage request through the Marton Community Committee small projects fund for duck crossing signs on Mill Street to the value of $1000.00.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

Central Districts Water - Debt Transfer

Officers presented a report outlining the next key step in the establishment of Central Districts Water. Members were advised that the purpose of the report was to seek approval for the proposed debt transfer methodology and financing principles required to establish CDW as a financially independent entity. Officers clarified that the report was not seeking approval of the final debt amounts, which will be presented to Council in a subsequent report.

Members noted that the dates relating to the CDW Board contained within Recommendations 3 and 5 required correction.

Members discussed various aspects of the debt transfer including the "no better, off, no worse off" principle, the guarantees and the importance of CDW being a financially independent organisation.

Members were advised that lessons continue to be drawn from other water Council-Controlled Organisations to avoid common implementation issues.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/112

That the Report Central District Water – Debt Transfer be received.

Cr P Sharland/Cr S Field. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/113

That Council approves the guiding principles for the water debt transfer from Council to Central Districts Water as part of the preparation of the transfer agreement.

Fairness and equity

Transparent documentation

Sustainability and flexibility

Clarity and simplicity

HWTM/Cr D Baird. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/114

That Council notes that the guiding principles for the water debt transfer were approved by the Central Districts Water Board on 29 April 2026.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/115

That Council approve the use of novation as the water debt transfer method from each Shareholding Council to Central Districts Water.

Cr J Wong/Cr D Baird. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/116

That Council notes that novation as the water debt transfer method was approved by the CDW Board on 29 April 2026 and the same approval will be requested from each other Shareholding Council by the end of June 2026.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/117

That Council approves provision of the following guarantees in support of debt facilities to be entered into by CDW:

a bilateral joint and several guarantee from each Shareholding Council in favour of LGFA (**LGFA Guarantee**); and

a separate guarantee in favour of approved financiers (other than LGFA) who participate in CDW's financing from time to time (**Global Guarantee**),

subject to:

the final funding structure and LGFA Guarantee and Global Guarantee (together the **Guarantees**) documentation being satisfactory to Council;

approval of the Guarantees by each other Shareholding Council; and

compliance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 and all other applicable legislation.

Cr D Baird/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/118

That Council delegates agreement and final approval of the Guarantees to the Chief Executive and Mayor of Rangitikei District Council.

HWTM/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/119

That Council notes that the approval for the provision of the deed of support to be provided by the Shareholding Councils in favour of CDW in order to ensure CDW can meet its obligations in relation to any pre-establishment funding (Deed of Support), will be included in a paper to Councils to approve on 25 June 2026.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/120

That Council approve the execution of the LGFA Guarantee and Global Guarantee, and all such other ancillary documentation as required in relation to the implementation of the Guarantees, on behalf of Council by:

in the case of deeds including the Guarantees and Deed of Support, two elected members; and

in the case of any other documents, the Chief Executive and Mayor***.***

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

11 Minutes from Committees

Minutes from Committees

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/121

That the following minutes are received:

- Erewhon Rural Water Scheme Committee Meeting – 03 March 26
- Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting – 02 April 26
- Finance/Performance Committee Meeting – 02 April 26
- Hunterville Community Committee Meeting – 08 April 26
- Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti Meeting – 14 April 26
- Ratana Community Board Meeting – 14 April 26
- Taihape Community Board Meeting – 15 April 26
- Marton Community Committee Meeting – 15 April 26
- Turakina Community Committee Meeting – 16 April 26
- Youth Council Meeting -11 May 26
- Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti Meeting – 19 May 26

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

12 Recommendations from Committees

Recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā

A member sought clarification on the purpose of the Marae Development Fund.

Officers advised that the fund supports improvement projects at marae across the district. Funding applications are considered by Te Rōpū Ahi Kā, which makes recommendations to Council for approval. It was noted that the nature of the works varies according to the individual needs of each marae.

Members were advised that the fund provides approximately $16,000 per annum. It was also clarified that the Marae Development Fund is separate from the Better Off Funding marae assessments, which serve a different purpose.

A member asked whether the fund is adjusted for inflation. Officers confirmed that it is.

Cr Baird declared a conflict of interest in relation to the item.

The Mayor and a member both spoke in support of the recommendation. Members noted that the timing of the allocation was appropriate given the end of the financial year and the availability of funding.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/122

That the report recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā be received.

Cr S Field/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/123

That Council agree with the Recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā and approves allocation of funding of $8,446 to Ōpaea Marae from the Marae Development Fund.

Cr S Field/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/124

That Council agree with the Recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā and approves allocation of funding of $8,000 to Moawhango Marae from the Marae Development Fund.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

The meeting closed at 11.20am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 July 2026.

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Chairperson