

MINUTES

EREWHON RURAL WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Monday, 6 December 2021

Time: 4.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Taihape Town Hall
90 Hautapu Street
Taihape

Present Mr Jock Stratton
Mr Peter Batley
Mr Geoff Duncan
Mr Barry Thomas
Mr Simon Plimmer
HWTM Andy Watson (ex officio)

In attendance Cr Gill Duncan
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager – Corporate Services
Mr Andrew van Bussel, Operations Manager
Ms Rochelle Baird, Community Services Officer
Mr Dene Smith, Taihape Plumbing

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1 Welcome

The meeting began at 4.03 pm and Mr Stratton welcomed everyone.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/016

That the apologies from Cr Tracey Hiroa, Mr Steven Stone and Mr Paul McLaren for absence be received.

Mr B Thomas/Mr G Duncan. Carried

3 Public Forum

Nil.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Duncan declared a conflict of interest as her husband is a member and asked if she could have speaking rights and the committee agreed.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

Nil changes.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Mr Batley arrived at the meeting at 4.05 pm.

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/017

That the minutes of the Erewhon Rural Water Supply meeting minutes held on 29 September 2021, 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.

Mr G Duncan/Mr S Plimmer. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from previous Erewhon Rural Water Supply Meetings

The committee went through the follow up actions. Mr Duncan said he would still like a glossary of terms and he would let Mr Tombs know which words.

Mr Batley asked how would the Three Waters Reform may affect the Erewhon scheme with regard to engineers. Cr Duncan said it is still unknown and up in the air at this stage.

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/018

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from previous Erewhon Rural Water Supply Meetings' be received.

Mr J Stratton/Mr S Plimmer. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - December 2021

Mr Stratton spoke to his report and tabled it.

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/019

That the Chair's Report – December 2021 be received.

Mr S Plimmer/Mr P Batley. Carried

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Erewhon RWS: October 2021 Financial Summary

Mr Tombs spoke to his report and explained the operating statement and the full year budget and stated based on current income and capital level, future increases of rates are needed. His Worship the Mayor queried the accounting deficit clarification, Mr Tombs said up until recently the budget was set on previous years not actual figures and scheme members were rated based on the budget. Mr Duncan said he checked an invoice that was 10 years old and the rate was more than it is now. Mr Tombs explained that the rate was charged for the prior year's usage. Mr van Bussel said in previous years that the council had dropped the rate where the committee had normally set the rate. Mr Tombs would investigate.

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/020

That the report 'Erewhon RWS: October 2021 Financial Summary' be received.

Mr S Plimmer/Mr P Batley. Carried

9.2 Lease Payments

Mr Stratton said that the Trust were not happy with the inconsistency of payments. Mr Tombs said the Trust should be invoicing the council for payment. Mr Stratton asked if it was a possibility for council just to pay them. Mr Tombs said no the Trust need to invoice first. Mr Thomas would approach Mr Stoney to ask if the Trust could invoice the Council on the 1st of July each year. Mr Thomas would let Mr Tombs know the outcome. His Worship the Mayor questioned the lease payment plus the CPI, Mr Tombs explained it is an annual adjustment.

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/021

That the report 'Lease Payments' be received.

Mr P Batley/Mr S Plimmer. Carried

9.3 Operations Report - December 2021

Mr van Bussel spoke to his report and said the flow meter did not comply due to air in the system and that Mr Smith would move the system 100 meters to get a good constant flow.

Mr van Bussel addressed Mr Stratton's concerns regarding the tender process and the lack of communication with committee members. Mr van Bussel said he was not the overseer and agreed the committee should have been involved and that the previous time a renewal had been put out for tender was in 2004 and after that the process was either done in house or Mr Smith would submit a quote to the committee for approval and Mr van Bussel would oversee the job.

Mr van Bussel said he is reluctant to cut back on operational checks as the scheme is running well but would re-evaluate and bring his findings to the next meeting.

Mr van Bussel tabled a Renewal Program Draft 2022 – 2032 which showed the priority projects and a risk assessment. Mr van Bussel stated that the risk assessment is as follows; 1 being low and 5 being high. Mr van Bussel went through each proposed priority and thanked Mr Smith for his help on checking pressures. Mr Thomas asked if the size of the pipe was increased would this help with the silting, Mr Smith explained if he runs the line every 3 months like he had done with John Gilberts one it does help.

Mr van Bussel said he is waiting on pricing for some materials. Mr Duncan asked if priority 3 & 4 was on the old pipe. Mr van Bussel said it was and would look at black steel as another option as it has previously lasted for 43 years.

Priority 8 - Mr van Bussel said this would be a hard one due to health and safety issues and the need for an engineer's design.

Priority 7 – if this was done over a couple of years there would be pipe sitting around and could mean the scheme would be down for some time if they go up the ridge. Mr Thomas asked would it be better to do 2 stages at the same time. Mr van Bussel said when he gets the quote for the steel

prices he would send out to members along with maps. Mr Thomas asked how available is the materials, Mr van Bussel said steel may not be a problem as there are a few stockists in the area, but other materials could be a wait.

Mr Plimmer asked if council would cover the costs to do the renewals, Mr Tombs said they would need to have a plan in place to pay the money back in a timely manner.

Mr Stratton suggested increasing the rates over 10 - 12 years to cover the costs. Mr Duncan suggested one big increase. Mr Thomas said it could put some members off if there was a sudden big increase in the rate. Mr Plimmer suggested external funding from MPI. Mr Tombs said the rates may have to double if funding is not successful.

Mr Stratton asked how many years could they spread out the renewal works. Mr van Bussel said priority 1 & 3 need to be addressed in the next 3 years and the rest would need to be done in the next 10 years.

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/022

That the Renewal programme draft 2022-2032 be received.

Mr P Batley/Mr S Plimmer. Carried

Resolved minute number 21/ERWS/023

That Council staff investigate what government funding is available for the scheme and an example of a funding application.

Mr G Duncan/Mr S Plimmer. Carried

The meeting closed at 5.31 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee held on .

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Chairperson