

MINUTES

EREWHON RURAL WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 2 September 2025

Time: 4.00pm

Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
2 Kokako Street
Taihape

Present

- Mr Jock Stratton
- Mr Barry Thomas
- Mr Paul McLaren
- Mr Benjamin Mallalieu
- HWTM Andy Watson
- Cr Greg Maughan
- Cr Jeff Wong

In attendance

- Mr Andrew van Bussel, Water Supply Specialist (Zoom)
- Mr Dene Smith, Taihape Plumbing
- Mr Danny Hopkins, The Plumber 123 (arrived at 4:12pm)
- Ms Leanne MacDonald, Group Manager Corporate Services (Zoom)
- Ms Rochelle Baird, Administration

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1 Welcome

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number **25/ERWS/014**

That the apologies from Mr Geoff Duncan and Mr Simon Plimmer be received.

Mr B Thomas/Mr B Mallalieu. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number **25/ERWS/015**

That the minutes of Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2025 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 B Thomas/Mr B Mallalieu. Carried

7 Follow up Actions

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

Mr Stratton asked if Mrs Gordon had followed up with Mr Benadie regarding the funding options, the Mayor would follow it up. The Mayor spoke about “local water done well” and that council had gone in with Palmerston North and Horowhenua. Whanganui and Ruapehu had opted to go alone. He said the savings is huge and has asked for rural water schemes to be autonomous.

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - September 2025

There was no Chairs Report.

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Erewhon RWS - 2024/25 Full Year Financial Summary

Ms McDonald spoke to her report and stated that the accounts had come in on budget. Mr McLaren asked about an administration error for account fees and had it been reversed. Ms McDonald said she would follow up with Mr Pedley to see how it was transferred. Mr McLaren said it needs to be shown in the cash balance.

9.2 Operations Report - August

Mr van Bussel spoke to his report and said that Mr Smith is doing regular checks.

Mr van Bussel said they had selected an engineer and hopefully would have the report by the next meeting. He said they are trying to set up an onsite meeting with the wider group including members and iwi. Juliet suggested that Ngati Hinemanu and Ngati Paki should be involved. The Mayor would contact them. The preferred date is Tuesday October 28.

Mr van Bussel spoke about the funding grant and that the steel option meets the requirements with a heat shrink when welded, and is a product from Australia. Mr McLaren asked what the total approximate amount was for the application and Mr van Bussel said about 3.5 million. Mr McLaren asked about the possibility of adding the Mcano bridge as a total replacement, Mr van Bussel said that would be a good option.

Ag First fund – Mr Plimmer is liaising with Erica. The Mayor said the government are trying to set up a regional deal where each region has a chance to put in for regional infrastructure fund and he would look further into it.

Mr Stratton said he is getting pine trees milled at his property and would be moving the line at his own expense but would get Mr Smith and Mr Hopkins to hook it up. Mr McLaren said there is rules of the scheme on the council website stating that all members needed to be told if you wanted to extend and that notification and permission from the committee was needed first. Mr van Bussel would look into the rules and liaise with Mr McLaren. Mr McLaren also came across an engineer's report online, which stated that the initial scheme was for Mangaohane Station and Kelly Land Company and was not designed for continuous flow.

Cr Maughan is standing down and thanked the committee and asked if he could join in on the site visit in October. Mr Stratton thanked Cr Maughan and said he is welcome to join.

Mr Hopkins introduced himself and his credentials. Mr McLaren asked how is Mr Smith and Mr Hopkins working together. Mr Smith said he is doing the majority and showing Mr Hopkins along the way. Mr van Bussel said Mr Hopkins would need to be added to the telemetry through Shane Gunn and the flow meter is done through Horizons.

Resolved minute number 25/ERWS/016

That the Operations Report – August be received.

Mr P McLaren/Mr B Thomas. Carried

8 Meeting Closed.

The meeting closed at 4.50pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee held on 2 December 2025.

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Chairperson