



# Rangitikei District Council

## Omatane Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee Meeting

Minutes – Wednesday 10 September 2014 – 3:00 p.m.

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### Contents

1	Apologies.....	2
2	Confirmation of Minutes.....	2
3	Matters Arising.....	2
4	Water Manager’s Report .....	2
5	Scheme Overseer’s Report.....	3
6	Financial Report .....	3
7	Members’ Questions.....	4
8	Date of next meeting .....	4
9	Meeting Closed .....	4

Present: Mr A McKay, Chairperson  
Mr D Hammond  
Mr L Kelly  
Mr A Ramsay  
Mr J Taylor  
Mr C White  
Mr L Bird

In Attendance: Mr A Watson, His Worship the Mayor  
Mr P O’Connor, Water Manager  
Mr D Miller, Asset Engineer  
Cr R Rainey  
Cr A Gordon (arrived at 3.10pm)  
Mrs S Srhoj, Administration

## 1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

## 2 Confirmation of Minutes

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/ORWS/009**                      **File Ref**

That the minutes of the Omatane Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee meeting held on 13 November 2013 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

D Hammond / J Taylor. Carried

## 3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

## 4 Water Manager's Report

Mr O'Connor introduced himself and Mr Rei Miller. He explained that there had been a few structural changes within the Infrastructure departments of Rangitikei and Manawatu District Councils. He said that the first point of contact would now be Mr Rei Miller.

Mr McKay advised that ORWS members were very proactive and were able to sort out most issues as they arose. He said that the scheme had been running really well. This year they had undertaken work on the intake 3 times. Flow over the weir had been good – with an increase in water.

There had been some problems with the telemetry. Mr O'Connor advised that he had met with Horizons and they were now aware of this problem.

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/ORWS/010**                      **File Ref**

That the Water Managers' Report, be received.

Mr McKay / Mr Hammond. Carried

## 5 Scheme Overseer's Report

Mr Hammond advised that routine work had been undertaken on Mr Platt's line and intakes had been cleaned out. He reported that the gate valves on Mr Andrews's property would need to be replaced in the near future. This job would only require a couple of hours work.

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/ORWS/011**                      **File Ref**

That the Scheme Overseers Report, be received.

Mr Hammond / Mr Kelly. Carried

## 6 Financial Report

Mr Kelly said that he had been on the scheme for 20 years and had been very happy with how things had progressed. However, he now wished to voice his concerns regarding the increase in internal charges. These had tripled over the years and he felt they were not justified. He wondered if there had been some confusion between their water scheme and that of Erehon and Hunterville.

Mr McKay noted that administration costs had also increased.

Mr Taylor quoted his annual water costs for the years 2005 – 2014. These varied from \$3760.00 in 2008 to \$371.30 in 2013. He queried the big difference in his water charges from year to year. Although he was aware that they would spike due to resource consents there was no continuity for roughly the same amount of water usage.

His Worship offered his comments on the charges, noting that initially he had also struggled to understand them. He then went on to explain the Long Term Plan process and suggested the Committee prepare a written submission on the water charges for Council's 2015-2025 Long Term Plan.

The Committee requested that Council's Infrastructure Group review these charges.

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/ORWS/012**                      **File Ref**

That the Omatane Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee requests that Council's Infrastructure Group review the charges to the Omatane Rural Water Supply.

Mr Kelly/Mr Taylor. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **14/ORWS/013**                      **File Ref**

That the Statement of Operations: for period ending 30 June 2014, be received.

Mr Kelly / Mr Hammond. Carried

## **7 Members' Questions**

Mr Kelly asked if there was any reason why the ORWS Committee could not run the scheme themselves.

Mr O'Connor replied that there was no reason why this could not happen. He said that Manawatu District Council currently have four rural water schemes. A formal lease had just been signed which would allow the Kiwitea scheme to be community operated and administered. He would provide a copy of the formal lease agreement.

There was further discussion on this option. There was some concern as to who would cover costs if the mainlines were to blowout. The Committee also requested information regarding the amount in the depreciation account along with the year the scheme was built and the length of the main line.

The Committee agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting on 18 February 2015 for further discussion on this item.

Mr O'Connor suggested that Carl Kelly and Samantha Whitcombe be invited to attend in order to answer any of the Committee's queries.

<b>Undertaking</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Omatane Rural Water Supply Management</b>
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His Worship to ask that the Council's Chief Executive arrange for a report on options for management including privatisation of the Omatane Rural Water Supply and that these be made available for the Committee's meeting of 18 February 2015.

## **8 Date of next meeting**

An extraordinary meeting to be held 18 February 2015.

## **9 Meeting Closed**

The meeting closed at 3.55pm