

MINUTES

RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 10 February 2026

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Ture Tangata Office
Ihipera-Koria Street
Rātana Pa

Present Mr Jason Hihira
Ms Grace Taiaroa
Ms Ruthie Lawrence
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa (Zoom)
HWTM Andy Watson

In attendance Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive
Ms Melanie Bovey, Heritage, Culture and Committee Support Officer
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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1 Whakamoemiti

Mr Hihira chaired and opened the meeting.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/001

That the apologies be received from Mr Mete.

Ms G Taiaroa/Ms R Lawrence. 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 26/RCB/002

That the minutes of Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 25 November 2025 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Mr J Hihira/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

7 Follow up Actions

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings

Item 3 – Ratana Urupa

Mrs Gordon will take this item back and confirm the barriers and issues for putting the tap in.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/003

That the report Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings be received.

Ms G Taiaroa/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - February 2026

There was no Chair's report.

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - December 2025

Rātana Celebrations

HWTM Watson congratulated the Rātana community, acknowledging the significant effort involved in organising this event.

Local Water Done Well (LWDW)

The district is ahead of many other councils across the country. Board appointments are imminent, and representation has now been accepted on the shareholders committee. There will be iwi representation on each of these. Progress is ahead due to timing between the three councils, with further developments expected. The changes will not take full effect until 2027 but will be incorporated into the Long-Term Plan (LTP).

TUIA Programme

Two individuals from Rātana have been identified to apply for the TUIA programme for 2026.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/004

That the Mayor's Report – December 2025 be received.

HWTM A Watson/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

9.2 Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti

Māori Responsiveness Framework

Ms Taiaroa updated the board that the Māori Responsiveness Framework was accepted, with feedback provided at the hui and via email. Ms Taiaroa noted that references had previously focused on iwi and hapū, and she advocated for Rātana to be specifically recognised.

Marae Development Fund

The Marae Development Fund has been approved. Information will be made available both as a booklet and online.

Staffing Update

Fran Pere, Strategic Advisor Mana Whenua, will be leaving Council following the final Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti meeting in April to take up a teaching role at Rātana School.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/005

That the Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti be received.

Mr J Hihira/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

9.3 Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project - Update

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/006

That the Lake Waipu Improvement and Ratana Wastewater Treatment Project – Update be received.

Mr J Hihira/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

9.4 Funding Schemes Update - February 2026

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/007

That the Funding Schemes Update – February 2026 be received.

Mr J Hihira/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

10 Discussion Items

10.1 Next agenda

The Board discussed the role of the members versus the community committee process and advocated for greater involvement in the Annual Plan/Long Term Plan.

10.2 General Business

Odour Issue

Ms Lawrence raised the concern regarding an incident four days ago where a nearby farmer was

spreading effluent, resulting in a strong odour affecting the school. Three students were sent home due to the smell. A complaint was lodged with Horizons Regional Council regarding air pollution.

This is an ongoing issue, and a formal Request for Service has been raised with the Regional Council. There is a need for clear understanding of the processes involved, ensuring all parties are informed and aware of how to respond.

HWTM Watson will raise the matter with the Chair of Horizons and request a site meeting involving both the Chair and Chief Executive.

Council Service Requests and Maintenance Issues

- Cemetery Shed: The shed used for storing shovels at the cemetery has blown away. This will be reconfirmed, with equipment currently being stored in back sheds.
- Flat Leak: Mr Hihira noted a leak in the flats. Ms Bovey has confirmed the issue has been fixed; however, no follow-up communication was received despite contact details being provided.
- Water Treatment Plant: Mr Hihira reported that stones near the water treatment plant have been displaced during heavy rain and are washing around the corner. A Request for Service (RFS) has been lodged.

Rātana Community Board Support

Discussion was held on the potential for the RCB to have an ‘off month’ dedicated to addressing community issues, rather than formal bi-monthly meetings. This would allow more focus on solutions and actions.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Rātana Community Board held on 14 April 2026.

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Chairperson