

HUTT CITY COUNCIL**WELLINGTON WATER COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a meeting held in the Greater Wellington Regional Council Chambers,
15 Walter Street, Te Aro, Wellington on
Thursday 5 March 2020 commencing at 2.00pm

PRESENT:

Cr J Brash (GWRC)
Cr D Bassett (HCC) (Chair)
Mayor A Baker (PCC)
Mayor A Beijen (SWDC)
Mayor W Guppy (UHCC) (Deputy Chair) (until 2.20pm)
Cr S Rush (WCC)
Ms K Skelton (Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika)

APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cr J van Lier (Alternate GWRC)
Deputy Mayor T Lewis (Alternate HCC)
Cr R Leggett (Alternate PCC)
Deputy Mayor G Emms (Alternate SWDC)
Cr I Pannett (Alternate WCC)
Ms N Solomon (Alternate Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira)
Ms K Tamanui (Alternate Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika)
Ms B McKerrow, Chief Executive, Wellington City Council
Ms N Wood, Greater Wellington Regional Council
Mr S Mahorey, Greater Wellington Regional Council
Ms S Gain, Greater Wellington Regional Council
Ms W Walker, Chief Executive, Porirua City Council
Ms J Long, Porirua City Council
Mr D Baxter, City Engineer, Wellington City Council
Mr M Ford, Chief Financial Officer, Wellington City Council
Mr D Wright, Chair of Wellington Water Limited
Mr C Crampton, Chief Executive, Wellington Water Limited
Ms S Cuthbert, Principal Advisor, Wellington Water Limited
Mr B Hodgins, Strategic Advisor, Hutt City Council
Ms D Hunter, Acting Committee Advisor, Hutt City Council

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. **APOLOGIES**

An apology was received from Deputy Chair Mayor Guppy for early departure.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

3. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

4. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Mayor Baker)

Minute No. WWC 20201

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Wellington Water Committee held on Monday, 16 December 2019, be confirmed as a true and correct record."

5. **WELLINGTON WATER GOVERNANCE REVIEW** (20/185)

Report No. WWC2020/2/63 by the Chief Executive, Porirua City Council.

The Chair updated members on Wellington City Council establishing a Mayoral Taskforce to address the ongoing water issues as well as the Government announcement that there were likely to be changes in terms of the future management of the Three Waters.

Cr Rush updated members regarding the taskforce scope. He advised that there had been an initial meeting of the Mayoral Taskforce and the scope of the review was still to be determined. He commented that it was the intention that any recommendations from the Mayoral Taskforce relating to the other shareholders would be addressed through the Wellington Water Committee.

In response to questions from members, the Chief Executive of Wellington City Council confirmed that the likely scope of the review was to inquire into specific problems relating to water issues in Wellington. She also advised that it was to identify initiatives to address these issues by recommending an action plan to Wellington City Council. She stated that an initial report was expected by the beginning of June to inform their Annual Plan deliberations.

The Chief Executive, Porirua City Council elaborated on the report. She acknowledged that Government had launched a major review to tackle New Zealand's Three Water issues relating to wastewater, stormwater and drinking water.

In response to questions from members, the Chief Executive, Porirua City Council reiterated that the issue still outstanding was the need to position Wellington Water Ltd for the future, particularly in light of the Government's Water Reform Package.

The Chair foreshadowed a revised recommendation (iv) as follows:

(iv) "That the Committee instructs the case manager for Wellington Water to prepare a terms of reference for a governance review that positions Wellington Water for the future and includes scope, key issues, service delivery options and methodology for undertaking the review noting that approval for this will be sought by circulating the draft to members of this committee."

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Mayor Guppy)

Minute No. WWC 20202

"That the Committee:

- (i) *receives the information;*
- (ii) *notes the outcomes of the workshop held on 10 February 2020 to address Governance issues raised in the previous triennium;*
- (iii) *notes the mechanisms available to each shareholding Council and mana whenua members to hold the Wellington Water company to account (letter of expectation, statement of intent, and key performance indicators in the context of an active working relationship); and*

(iv) *instructs the case manager for Wellington Water to prepare a terms of reference for a governance review that positions Wellington Water for the future and includes scope, key issues, service delivery options and methodology for undertaking the review noting that approval for this will be sought by circulating the draft to members of this committee."*

Mayor Guppy left the meeting at 2.20pm.

6. DRAFT HALF YEAR REPORT 2019/20 (20/214)

Memorandum dated 2 March 2020 by Wellington Water Ltd

Mr Wright, Board Chair Wellington Water Ltd (WWL) elaborated on the memorandum. He noted that WWL had made good progress towards its goals and overall performance with some noteworthy results and acknowledged some results that could be better. He highlighted South Wairarapa District Council becoming a six shareholder Council as well as welcoming iwi partners around the table.

In response to questions from members, the Chief Executive, WWL advised that WWL had KPIs in its Statement of Intent, another KPI with Department of Internal Affairs and in shareholding Councils Long Term Plans. He noted that an external audit would be undertaken on financial and non financial issues. He confirmed that they were collaborating with Greater Wellington Regional Council in regard to flood management studies.

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Cr Rush)

Minute No. WWC 20203

"That the Committee receives the Half Year Report 2019/20 for the six months ended 31 December 2019 attached as Appendix 1 to the memorandum."

7. WELLINGTON WATER LTD'S DRAFT STATEMENT OF INTENT 2020-23 (20/210)

Report No. WWC2020/2/70 by Wellington Water Ltd

Mr Wright, Board Chair of Wellington Water Ltd (WWL) elaborated on the memorandum. He commented that over the past four months, WWL had been reviewing its performance measures by developing a comprehensive framework driven by business expertise and experience.

In response to questions from members, the Chief Executive, WWL confirmed that changes had been made to their performance framework as part of their commitment to becoming a high performing organisation and the journey of continual improvement.

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Cr Brash)

Minute No. WWC 20204

"That the Committee receives, considers and provides feedback on Wellington Water Ltd's draft Statement of Intent by Friday, 17 April 2020."

8. COMPANY UPDATE REPORT (20/208)

Report No. WWC2020/2/71 Wellington Water Ltd

Mr Wright, Board Chair of Wellington Water Ltd (WWL) elaborated on the memorandum.

In response to questions from members, the Chief Executive, WWL advised that they were currently in the middle of Stage One. He also advised that they had engaged Water Industry Commission for Scotland to peer review their work and provide independent advice back to individual Councils.

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Mayor Beijen)

Minute No. WWC 20205

"That the Committee receives and notes the information."

9. **WELLINGTON WATER COMMITTEE DRAFT UPDATE FOR COUNCILS** (20/209)

Report No. WWC2020/2/72 by Wellington Water Ltd

Mr Wright, Board Chair of Wellington Water Ltd elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Cr Brash)

Minute No. WWC 20206

"That the Committee:

- (i) approves the draft Wellington Water Committee Update report; and*
- (ii) authorises the Chair to finalise the Wellington Water Committee Update report and forwarding it to each Council."*

10. **LONG TERM PLANS UPDATE** (20/215)

Report No. WWC2020/2/73 by Wellington Water Ltd

Mr Wright, Board Chair of Wellington Water Ltd (WWL) elaborated on the report.

The Chief Executive, WWL commented that this would be the first time that WWL would be presenting proposed Long Term Plan programmes that would indicate rates impacts to each council shareholder. He stated that this would enable the region's ratepayers to better understand the impact of the investment required to achieve the desired long term outcomes.

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Cr Rush)

Minute No. WWC 20207

"That the Committee:

- (i) receives the report; and*
- (ii) notes that Wellington Water Ltd will work across our client councils to help them to reach agreement on regional Long Term Plan investment priorities such as those for bulk water and jointly-owned wastewater systems."*

11. **CLIMATE CHANGE** (20/217)

Report No. WWC2020/2/74 by Wellington Water Ltd

RESOLVED: (Cr Brash/Mayor Beijen)

Minute No. WWC 20208

"That the Committee:

- (i) notes the report;*
- (ii) provides feedback on the proposed response programme and its alignment to shareholding councils' climate change strategies and action plans; and*
- (ii) notes proposed emission reduction targets and the associated investment needs will be included in all of council Long Term Plan proposals an consolidated for presentation to the Committee at its June meeting."*

12. **SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY POLICY** (20/218)

Report No. WWC2020/2/29 by Wellington Water Ltd

Cr Brash advised that the Greater Regional Council (GWRC) was developng a business case for the five client world. She asked for support from members for this to continue. She stated that a business case would be reported back to Wellington Water Ltd.

Ms Solomon commented that whilst building the business case, GWRC needed to consider how water metering would impact on the Maori community, in particular significant iwi maraes, where the water useage was different.

Ms Skelton reiterated that GWRC needed to take into account the long running affordability for people around the most vulunerable and poorest areas of our communities.

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Mayor Beijen)

Minute No. WWC 20209

"That the Committee:

- (i) notes the report;*
- (ii) provides feedback on, and endorses in principle, the target and policy; and*
- (iii) discusses the implications of the current shortfall in the drought resilience level of service and the absence of data and information to support residential water use efficiency."*

13. DRAFT SUBMISSION ON TAUMATA AROWAI BILL (20/211)

Report No. WWC2020/2/28 by Wellington Water Ltd

RESOLVED: (Cr Bassett/Cr Brash)

Minute No. WWC 20210

"That the Committee:

- (i) receives and notes the draft submission on the Taumata Arowai Bill attached as Appendix 1 to the report;*
- (ii) approves the submission subject to feedback from the members; and*
- (iii) asks the Chair to forward the submission to the Health Committee."*

14. GENERAL BUSINESS (20/211)

The Chair advised the following:

- (i) Issues relating to fees for Committee members, in particular iwi representatives, had been resolved.
- (ii) He and the Chief Executive of Porirua City Council had been invited to join the New Zealand Minister of Local Government to travel to Hobart to meet with Tasmania Water. The focus of the four day visit was to discuss how they would move from 29 local authorities to form one entity to run and manage Tasmania Water. This visit was expected to take place between 31 March 2020 to 3 April 2020.

Cr Rush advised that he was now unable to attend the trip because Wellington City Council was unable to get travel insurance due to coronavirus.

In closing, the Chair acknowledged the challenging time for water management in the Wellington area. He wanted to thank all parties for getting together to discuss playing a key role in moving forward.

He thanked Wellington Water Limited staff who had worked tirelessly for the past few months in challenging times.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.45pm.

Cr D Bassett
CHAIR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 3rd day of June 2020