



WWUP Stakeholder Advisory Group

RECORD

WHEN 11 Feb 2016
WHERE/TIME Carterton Events Centre, 5pm – 7:45pm

ATTENDEES

Members

Jim Lynch	Chair
Liz McGruddy	Federated Farmers NZ
Jane Davis	Carterton District Council
Campbell Gillam	Wairarapa DHB
Richard Kershaw	Wairarapa Water Users Society
Bob Tosswill	Wairarapa Regional Irrigation Trust
David Hopman	Masterton District Council
Vern Brasell	Sustainable Wairarapa

Officers and Consultants

Michael Bassett-Foss	GWRC, WWUP, Project Director
Bruce Geden	GWRC, WWUP, Project Manager
Greg Ordish	GWRC, WWUP, Technical Officer
Elsie Diederichsen	GWRC, WWUP, Project Coordinator
Geoff Copps	Grow Wellington
Lisa Sims	Lis Sims Ltd

FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/57–v1

1. Welcome/apologies

Jane Davis was introduced and welcomed by the Chair. Jane is now the CDC CEO.

The following were recorded as apologies:

Amelia Geary	Forest and Bird
Stephanie Gunderson-Reid	Wairarapa Chamber of Commerce
Mike Birch	Whitewater NZ
Jamie Falloon	Federated Farmers NZ
Pim Borren	Masterton District Council
Ra Smith	Kahungunu ki Wairarapa
Horipo Rimene	Rangitane o Wararapa, Kaitiaki

Absent

Kathy Houkamau	Department of Conservation
Paul Crimp	SWDC
Gary McPhee	Wairarapa Constituency Regional Councillor

2. Matters arising from record of last meeting on 19 Nov 2015

“Without prejudice’ footnote on all meeting records will be discussed at next meeting. All members received a draft Guideline for WWUP SAG meeting records (attached).

3. Project Director’s report

The report was taken as read. Michael highlighted:

- Despite a delay last year in the IAF signoff, drilling, hydrology gauging and farmer engagement activities were kicked off over the Christmas period. A project timeline was handed out showing the splitting of feasibility activities into two stages (attached).
- Lewis Tucker has been selected to provide commercial advisory services; they have primary sector experience.
- Following the last Leadership Group meeting, workshops with the three Wairarapa councils have been set up. The first took place with the SWDC on 10 Feb, workshop with CDC on 2 Mar and with MDC on 14 Mar. Topics include WWUP re-branding, engagement activities, regional integration infrastructure and commercial work programme.

4. Feasibility Update

The report was taken as read. Bruce highlighted:

- Drilling contract with Griffiths Drilling Ltd to be signed by 12 Feb. Drilling at the two sites is set to start on 18 Feb. The drilling involves taking core samples that will be analysed and stored, and also stationary monitoring over a longer period of time. The process is due to be finished by mid-April 2016.
- A formal approach to land access agreements has been taken, facilitated by BakerAg.
- Sites have been identified for the next step in hydrology investigations. Two PT’s were installed before Christmas. More equipment has been ordered to monitor 10 more sites.
- Question arose whether water quality samples of the Tauweru could be taken by the WWUP hydrologist during planned hydrology work. This will be investigated.
- The ecological walkover will be actioned once the stage 2 IAF contract is signed.
- The stage 2 application is being refined in accordance with IAF requests.

A handout was distributed (attached), updating the Ruamāhanga Collaborative Modelling Project. A more complete update will be given at the next meeting, including information about whether the modelling project is using historical data on the Wairarapa region from the past 20 years. The idea behind this is to use historical data is to test the model's assumptions.

Since drilling tracks will make access to the Tividale site easier, the idea was posed that the SAG members visit this.

5. Farmer demand

Report taken as read.

- Greg presented a slide show presentation to the group (attached). Overviewing what stage the project is at in the case study process. Detailed case studies for dairy, mixed (arable, livestock, market gardening), sheep dairy and apples are underway and due to be finalised soon. Financial performance, environmental impacts and lifestyle management changes are being modelled.
- The case study information will feed into choice modelling survey due to start in May.
- Survey work was slow over the Nov/Dec/Jan.
- The pilot choice survey is complete, 11 of 15 farmers completed the survey. The full survey will take approx. 15 minutes. More detail on choice modelling will be provided at the next meeting.

Michael handed out a draft demand/commercial work programme interdependencies chart which illustrates how each work stream relates to each other.

An updated integrated timeline (showing WWUP progress in relation to other projects such as the Whaitua) will be presented at the next meeting.

Michael briefed SAG members on a meeting with SWDC councillors, presenting the storage scheme(s) as a crucial part of the regional infrastructure.

6. Comms & engagement update

Report taken as read. Lisa spoke to her report highlighting:

- SAG members will be invited to and kept up to date with events planned for 2016.
- Dryland farmers are still the target audience for the upcoming field days but will include a much larger audience including investors, bankers, current irrigators etc.
- The project is being pro-active with comms around the drilling investigations.
- Re-branding: The proposed new name, story and vision for the WWUP was presented to the SAG members and their feedback noted:
 - The name "Water Wairarapa" could get confused with "Wellington Water" especially if Wellington Water was more present in the Wairarapa
 - The name serves well as a simple name for a broad message
 - The word "brilliant" in the vision statement is too strong. Something like "great" might be better
 - The shorter the message the better

- The word “better” in the purpose might offend some people as it could imply that (it) needs improvement. Words like “sustainable” or “resilient” were suggested
- Suggested: “Securing stronger futures” or “Making communities resilient”
- The vision is too high level. It could describe the vision of anything in the Wairarapa, e.g. vision for any council or company. It makes no reference to the project. Some aspect of the project should be added to this.
- The new brand has to be finalised by the end of March
- Suggested that we include DOC national in our activities
- We will be sending out some hard-copy information to farmers with the new logo and brand and are thinking about sending a fortnightly bullet-point update email to councillors with the most important and current information.

7. Meeting dates for SAG meetings in 2016

The meeting dates for the upcoming SAG meetings were handed out. These will be sent via outlook in the coming days.

Meeting closed: 7:45pm

Attachments: Ruamāhanga Collaborative Modelling Project Update
 Guideline for WWUP SAG meeting records – Draft
 Farm case study slide show – viability of land use options
 WWUP – Indicative Feasibility Work Programme
 SAG meeting dates 2016
 NIWA Soil moisture deficit map