

MEETING RECORD

Stakeholder Advisory Group

SUBJECT

WHEN Thursday 13 November 2014, 5.00pm - 8.00pm

WHERE Carterton Events Centre, Carterton

FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/30

Attendance:

Members:

Jim Lynch	Chair
Andrew Stewart	Sustainable Wairarapa
Mike Birch	Whitewater NZ
Geoff Doring	Forest and Bird Protection Society
Jamie Falloon	NZ Federated Farmers (Wairarapa)
Campbell Gillam	Wairarapa DHB
Gary McPhee	Wairarapa Constituency Regional Councillor
Richard Kershaw	Wairarapa Water Users Society
Bob Tosswill	Wairarapa Regional Irrigation Trust
Phil Teal	Fish & Game NZ
David Hopman	Masterton District Council
Stephanie Gundersen-Reid	Wairarapa Chamber of Commerce
Ra Smith	Kahungunu ki Wairarapa
Colin Wright	Carterton District Council
Dane Rimine	Rangitane o Wairarapa
David Hopman	Masterton District Council

Officers and Consultants

Michael Bassett-Foss	GWRC, WWUP Project Director
Bruce Geden	GWRC, WWUP Project Manager
Geoff Copps	GWRC, WWUP Business Demand Advisor
Alastair Smaill	GWRC, Waitua Project Manager
Graham Sevicke-Jones	GWRC, Manager, Environmental Science

Apologies

Mandy Armstrong	Sustainable Wairarapa
Hugh Barr	Council of Outdoor Recreation Associations of NZ
Paul Crimp	South Wairarapa District Council
Siobhan Garlick	Rangitane o Wairarapa
Peter Munn	Wairarapa Development Group
Don Bell	Sustainable Wairarapa
Garry Foster	Department of Conservation
Kevin Steel	Ministry of Primary Industries (IAF)
Nigel Corry	GWRC, GM Environmental Management
Aimie Shore	GWRC, WWUP Project Coordination
Greg Ordish	GWRC, WWUP Technical Officer
Lisa Sims	Lisa Sims Ltd WWUP Engagement Advisor
Pim Borren	Masterton District Council
Jono Streat	GWRC, GM Manager Policy

Record and matters arising from the Last Meeting

The Chair noted apologies received for this meeting. There were no comments on the record of the last meeting on 25 September 2014.

1. Meeting Protocols

A brief clarification was provided of the status of documents, presentations and ‘free and frank’ discussion.

Also clarified was the situation where information presented at or provided for SAG meetings is requested from representative organisations – it was advised that if desired, they can pass the request onto the WWUP/GWRC to respond.

2. Project Update

2.1. Project Status

Michael Bassett-Foss explained how many potential opportunities for cost savings were derived from the Value Engineering workshop & how the most promising (in terms of scale) of these were being further investigated.

So far, the initially identified (prior to any investigations) savings had been confirmed as generally correct i.e. within the possible savings range. In many instances this was increasing the economic viability of most potential schemes.

2.2 **Workstream 4 - On-Plains Storage**

The report was taken as read. Bruce Geden and Michael Bassett-Foss provided further explanation especially on the role these types of storage ponds:

- Currently perform especially in the South Island; mainly different from a potential Wairarapa scenario
- Could potentially perform in the Wairarapa and how they could be considered in further detail in the full Feasibility phase depending on which schemes make it through to the next stage of investigations.

2.3 **Workstream 5 - Dry matter Production**

The report was taken as read.

Bruce Geden and Michael Bassett-Foss then provided further explanation especially with respect to the outputs from similar research recently conducted for the Hunter Downs irrigation project. The most notable finding was that quite significant reductions in the peak water supply rate resulted in relatively insignificant dry matter production losses - this has scheme and water cost as well as water efficiency implications.

3. **WWUP Objectives Review**

The report was taken as read.

Bruce Geden and Michael Bassett-Foss explained the rationale for need to refresh the objectives especially given that:

- a) they were originally drafted in 2012 when the project was in its infancy, and
- b) the project has evolved considerably through investigations and consideration of the outcomes

The objectives will be redrafted and SAG members asked for provide feedback.

4. **Decision-making process (Multi Criteria Analysis or MCA)**

Bruce Geden and Michael Bassett-Foss informed the meeting that advice has been sought from Incite on the decision-making process (Multi Criteria Analysis or MCA) – this will assist in deciding which schemes should go through to the full Feasibility stage once the investigations are complete.

The main points of the MCA process are that:

- a) Previous MCA advice was sufficiently rigorous and should be used as the basis for the Prefeasibility phase i.e. made as seamless as possible.
- b) Subject categories, weighting, and scoring must be made by experts (some to be confirmed) in their respective professional fields

- c) Parties such as SAG can suggest that some category scores be amended; the ‘experts’ may then amend them if they agree with the suggestions, but ultimately the ‘experts’ must be able to justify (in court) their scores and the rationale behind them.

5. Whaitua Update

Alastair Smaill informed SAG that one of the Whaitua’s foci was driven by the NPS for Freshwater’s need to improve & maximise water allocation & efficiency. It was emphasised that this discussion would be happening with or without the presence of WWUP.

There was discussion around how ‘unused’, but allocated water could be more efficiently utilised through both administrative and market means such as metering, charging etc. while improving reliability especially if storage was brought in.

6. Communications update

The report was taken as read. It was noted that the project team is looking to hold a strategy session on WWUP engagement possibly in December.

7. Federated Farmers Presentation (continued)

Following Jamie Falloon’s presentation at the last SAG meeting (when there was no time for questions and answers), Jamie hosted a discussion around the role and challenges farmers face. This included identification of where areas of environmental concern lay for the Ruamahanga catchment and how these matters could be addressed both pragmatically, , economically and within a viable time frame.

8. Feedback/Opportunity to comment

No general feedback was received.

9. AOB

Michael Bassett-Foss briefly discussed next year’s meetings.

The meeting finished at 7.30pm.