

Report 99.244
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Report to Wellington Regional Council
From: Stuart Macaskill, Chairman

Chairman's Report

1. October Floods

I have received a letter as follows from Grace and John Maddocks concerning the raising of their house at Otaihanga:

"We expect to return to our home during mid May. It has been a long haul since the October flood, but now the house has been raised and the interior renovated, our more secure situation has made our long wait worthwhile.

Grace and John Maddocks wish to record our appreciation for the efforts and help given by yourself, your staff and the Council."

It is very pleasing to receive such a letter of appreciation.

2. Local Government New Zealand Conference

Local Government's 1999 Conference is being held in Auckland in mid July. The programme is **attached as Appendix 1**.

Council policy is for three councillors to attend – myself, the Deputy Chair and one other councillor. Council needs to consider who the third delegate should be.

Two of the matters to come before Council are the election of a president and two vice presidents.

The candidates for President and Vice Presidents are:

President:

Don Riesterer – Mayor, Opotiki District Council
Louise Rosson - Chair, Otago Regional Council
John Terris – Mayor, Hutt City Council

Vice Presidents (2)

Gordon Blake – Mayor, South Waikato District Council

Sukhi Turner – Mayor, Dunedin City Council

Phil Warren – Chair, Auckland Regional Council

Information on each of the candidates is being circulated in the Information Bulletin.

Normal practice is for the Council Chairman to exercise the Council's Conference votes in consultation with other WRC delegates at the Conference and following presentations made to the Conference by each of the candidates.

A similar process is followed with the vice presidential elections.

The General Manager and Council Secretary will also attend.

Recommendation

That Council appoint a third WRC representative to attend the LGNZ Conference.

3. Conference on the Future of the New Zealand Constitution

Councillor Gibson has drawn my attention to a forthcoming conference on the future of the New Zealand Constitution to be held in Auckland 20/21 August 1999.

In my view the Conference programme (**Appendix 2 attached**) is a most interesting one, particularly in view of what Sir Geoffrey Palmer had to say at our recent workshop. (Sir Geoffrey is to chair one of the sessions).

Recommendation

That Cr Gibson attend the Conference on the future of the New Zealand Constitution.

4. APEC Women Leaders' Network Meeting

The above meeting is to be held in Wellington from 20-23 June 1999 with the theme "Women in APEC – our contribution to economic prosperity".

A copy of the programme is attached (**Appendix 3**) and application for registration is invited. (Nominees are not guaranteed a place until they receive official confirmation).

My suggestion is that Cr Shields be invited to consult other women Regional Councillors and she be authorised to submit any agreed nominations to attend the Women Leaders' Network Meeting.

5. Regional Tertiary Hospital

The next meeting (which was to have been held on 7 May) was postponed until 17 May. I will report further at the Council meeting.

6. **Transmission Gully Survey**

Councillors are well aware of the results of the survey commissioned by the WRC and Transit. Our process for following up on the survey's conclusions will commence at the Special Meeting of the RLTC next week. I expect that in due course a full report, with recommendations on follow-up action, will come to the Policy & Finance Committee.

7. **Recommendation**

That the Report be received and recommendations adopted.

STUART MACASKILL
Chairman

Attachments: Appendix 1 – NZLG Conference Programme
Appendix 2 – New Zealand Constitution Programme
Appendix 3 – APEC Women Leaders' Networking Programme