



greater WELLINGTON
THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Report 04.388

22 June 2004

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Utility Services Committee held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Tuesday, 22 June 2004 at 9.30am

Present

Councillors Werry (Chairperson), Aitken, Kirton, Long, McDavitt, Shields and Thomas

Also Present

Councillor Barr

Officers Present

Messrs Benham, Darroch, Kennedy, Laidlow, Leonard, McCarthy, Morrison, Samuel and Sells

Public Business

Procedural Items

US 131 Apologies

There were no apologies.

US 132 Public Participation

There were no members of the public who wished to participate in the meeting.

US 133 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved

(Cr Aitken/Cr Thomas)

That the public and public excluded minutes of the meeting of 11 May 2004, Report 04.262 and Report PE 04.263, be confirmed.

Matters for Decision

US 134 Wholesale Water Supply Asset Management Plan 2004

Report 04.306

File: b/20/15/04

Resolved to Recommend to Council

(Cr Aitken/Cr Thomas)

That Council adopt an active programme for the distribution and commendation of the Asset Management Plan, incorporating the following elements:

- (a) as part of our social marketing and other water related citizen education programmes, to target and encourage citizen interest in and understanding of the plan.*
- (b) to stimulate Territorial Authorities, especially in those areas of probable significant demographic change from Porirua to Otaki, to use the plan in their own planning, especially their water demand management systems.*
- (c) to regional public health and social service agencies to demonstrate the relevance of this plan to the development of their own longer term planning scenarios.*
- (d) to the Wellington Regional Strategy forum as a significant contribution to its strategic conversations.*
- (e) to the VUW school of government, along with the LTCCP, with encouragement to use these documents as teaching/learning tools in their graduate and post-graduate programmes.*

Resolved

(Cr Werry/Cr Thomas)

That officers be congratulated for the way the Asset Management Plan had been prepared and presented to the Committee and for the quality of the Plan.

US 135 Review of Charges for Private Water Supplies**Report 04.326**

File: B/05/03/01

*Resolved**(Cr /Werry/Cr Long)*

- (1) *That the retention of the current supply charge of 42.6 cents per cubic meter for the 2004/5 financial year be approved.*
- (2) *That the existing scale of fixed charges continuing for 2004/5 be approved.*

US 136 Wainuiomata Lower Dam: Decommissioning**Report 04.290**

File: B/10/03/02

*Resolved**(Cr Long/Cr Werry)*

- (1) *That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- (2) *Note that the do nothing option with respect to the lower dam is not an acceptable outcome, as the structure is not expected to comply with the dam legislation currently being considered by Parliament.*
- (3) *Note that the lowering of the spillway to create a wetland, is the lowest cost option.*
- (4) *That officers be invited to bring back a joint proposal following the Landcare Committee's consideration of the matter.*

Matters for Information**US 137 Kaitoke Pipeline: Deviation at Mangaroa****Report 04.302**

File: B/11/08/01

*Resolved**(Cr Aitken/Cr Thomas)*

- (1) *That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- (2) *Note that a request for additional operating expenditure may be placed before the Committee at the time of the 2004/05 six-monthly financial review.*

US 138 Population Projections and Development of the Next Water Source

Report 04.301

File: B/01/01/01

Resolved

(Cr Werry/Cr Aitken)

- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- (2) That the higher than expected population increase be noted.*
- (3) That it be noted that the next budget round may bring forward system enhancement projects to meet the updated assessment of demand growth.*

US 139 Water Demand Management

Report 04.347

File: B/21/03/06

Resolved

(Cr Aitken/Cr Werry)

- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.*

Resolved to Recommend to Council

(Cr Aitken/Cr Werry)

- (2) That the following conclusions from the Water Demand Management Initiatives Report be noted:*
 - Greater Wellington Water's current demand management activities are educational only, apart from contributing to customer decision making about whether to introduce more limiting watering restrictions.*
 - Demand management is primarily focused on reducing water use for garden irrigation during summer. This approach is considered the most likely to maintain water use within the capacities of current water sources and supply assets.*
 - Recent water use patterns indicate a modest reduction in summer and peak summer water use per head of population. Total water use in summer shows a decreasing trend. However, there is no decrease in the trend for total volume of supply in the maximum supply week of each year.*
 - Education is typically a foundation for effective demand management. However, using a wider set of tools including more prescriptive measures tends to yield more significant results.*

Resolved to Recommend to Council

(Cr Aitken/Cr Werry)

- (3) *That active investigations be undertaken and reported back to Council by the end of the 2004/05 fiscal year, on the merits and risks of a more comprehensive demand management programme that is based on the agreement and active participation of our customers.*

US 140 Divisional Report

Report 04.329

File: O/02/01/10

Resolved

(Cr Werry/Cr Thomas)

That the report be received and the information noted.

US 141 Questions

Asbestos Pipes

Councillor Thomas said she was concerned that asbestos pipes were used in the water supply system and asked whether there had been any adverse health impacts on residents.

It was agreed that officers will provide details of the asbestos piping in the Greater Wellington network and will also circulate medical/scientific information on the safety of asbestos related material.

Officers will also contact Mr Palmer, the Medical Officer of Health and circulate any information he may supply.

US 142 General

Best Practise Drought Forecasting

Councillor Aitken said that officers should be congratulated for their initiative in investigating with NIWA the workability of a drought forecasting model based on climatic data. Noting the aim is to provide early warning of an impending water shortage Councillor Aitken said the model may well have implications for other project forecasting.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm.

CR R J WERRY
Chairperson

Date: