

Minutes: Hikurangi Flood Management Scheme Working Group Meeting held at the Whakapara Hall on Tuesday 23rd November 2021

Facilitator	Simon Charles
Scribe	Trisha Ryan
Purpose	Forum to discuss the Hikurangi Flood Management Scheme Issues
Present	Simon Charles, Trisha Ryan, Hai Nguyen, (all WDC) Andrew Carvell, (VMC) Justine Rowe, Philip Bayly, Evan Smeath, Simon Donnelly, Phil Hindrup, Todd Imeson, Stephen Brown, Ken Finlayson, (all Pocket Reps) Sean Clayton (NRC), Anh Nguyen (DOC), Chantez Connor, (NRC/NKONWM) Jess Wallace (eWater - via zoom), Cory Hutchinson Greg Palmer (Hydrotech)
Apologies	Geoff Crawford, Luke Beehre, Wayne Sampson, Barry Thorne

Simon Charles addressed the floor, opened the meeting welcoming members and staff representatives from the Whangarei District Council.

Item	Description	Action	Decision
Apologies	As Above		
Actions	Actions Discussed in table below		
Financial	Unaudited report for Financial year ending 30 June 2021 was presented to the group Points noted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity showing higher in 2021 than in 2020 • Pump Station Maintenance Lower than in 2020 • Credit for rates paid in 2020 shown in 2021 summary • Justine asked if the actuals were within budget and why pump cost was \$253K but in actuals this is reported as \$215k – WDC to advise via email Summary of Electricity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Okarika Station higher due to longer running time • Hai still waiting for Northpower to forward on more information for how this is tracking this financial year • Simon to send correspondence out from Northpower relating to proposal changes to electricity charges to the group 	12 Simon to send out Northpower letter & action 13 advise on actuals vs budget & why power figure is different	
Operations Update	Helicopter Spray Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NRC, DoC notified - No spray zone shall be adhered to, requested by DoC due to new planting - Spraying was expected to start on 15 November subject to weather. Jay has advised this will start 20th November - Hydrotech to give progress update Mechanical Drain Cleaning Additional drain cleaning for Te Mata pocket has been included	Hai to check when spraying started on 20th November as advised	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O'Reilley Drain 1330m • Griffin Drain 831m <p>These additional were as agreed by the group at meeting in May 2021</p> <p>Ngararatuna Pocket Helicopter to spray up to Greg Sowrey Mechanical dig 64m to Barry Thorn property to drain conditions? Trees an issue – 26 trees require branches to be taken off. Tree stumps to be removed while digger in area</p> <p>Stopbank repair work to Apotu Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to be carried out as soon as weather and soil conditions allow • To have at least 10-12 days of dry • Water level at the stream must be lower than 89.40 • Dewatering pump required • Soil compacting at least 120 kPa, > 8% air voids • Both lab and onsite testing required for clay plug and site test • Bill Ringrose contacted to obtain clay source • Price accepted from Clements Contractors \$77056.20 • Estimated Lab test during construction \$2,500.00 • Project Plan to start 29th November subject to weather conditions <p>Signs and access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New weight restriction signage fixed in place at Ngararatunua pump station • Accessway to the Ngararatunua pumpstation is to be rehabilitated. Work completed and updated by Greg Palmer on 17 November 2021. <p>Otonga Pump</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otonga Pocket, Pump D replacement completed on 25th August 2021 • No spare unit for 240 HP at the moment – estimated advised as \$490k and 12 month lead time • Laminations have failed • Testing has not proceeded • Looking at an alternative option which is a vertical axial flow Amacan quotation to follow. • As Long Term Plan has approved submission that no capital assets will be replaced for 24 months whilst alternatives are investigated a new pump is not to be ordered. Meeting attendees requested an update on Waikato pump as presented at WDC Hui following Tuna incident in early 2021 <p>Tuna Mortality Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the flood from 22-28 Oct some dead Tuna (eels) recorded – total 19 	<p>Further leakage identified a site visit required by WDC and Hawthorn Geddes to update new scope of work for Clements</p> <p>Separate Meeting to be set up to discuss operating with no spare unit for 240HP pump & alternative to buying a new pump</p> <p>To get quotes</p> <p>Simon to propose some</p>	<p>Branches from 26 trees to be cleared and moved to private land beside the side of the drain for landowner to dispose of.</p>
--	--	--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pumps turned off on 29 Oct <p>Questions arising as to when the 8 hours stand down period starts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rely on Met Service – 8 hours starts as soon as weather warning issued? - Greg monitoring pre storm warning? - Who makes the decision? <p>The consent does not have any conditions around the fatality numbers, however nobody wants any Tuna Killed.</p> <p>Hydrotech need to set up a report to record the dead Tuna (Eels) as a better reporting system is required. (Post meeting note – this is already captured and reported to NRC in accordance with consent conditions) Protection migrating Tuna (eels Chantez advised that legislation has been breached in this area and requested WDC to provide June flood Tuna death count</p> <p>Protocol in place – monitoring of the pumps</p> <p>Helicopter Spray</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain Pocket want to spray twice a year • Group agrees to only one spray per year Hydrotech to update by February on success of first spray and to communicate if 2nd spray required • Late last year debris left in drains, so these require spraying now and then again on pest grasses in February 2022 • Rushbrook Drain – Confirm if this is a swamp drain and if it is okay to include it on the spraying plan <p>Interim Pump Operational Protocol</p> <p>From last meeting there was a few issues that needed addressing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notification of heavy rain warnings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Received from Civil Defence or NRC - Sent to WDC Waste and Drainage (available 24/7) who notify Hydrotech via WhatsApp group of 8-hour notice 6. Heavy rain event defined as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 or more consecutive days, - recording more than 10mm of rainfall - or any one day where more than 30mm of rainfall is recorded 7b. Winter (July to end October) Pumps are in manual off to be monitored as an interim process as per the meeting on 20th May 2021. Meeting Decision made they should be in Auto during Winter, supported by Chantez. <p>Greg Palmer advised that some of the smaller pumps are not turned to auto immediately for Winter, but are monitored.</p> <p>Greg will provide a table of the pumps which are or are not on auto during winter</p> <p>Safety Incident</p>	<p>wording around anyone on the “calling” group being able to initiate the 8 hours once they become aware of impending weather event</p> <p>14 WDC provide June Tuna death count to Chantez</p> <p>Hydrotech to update by February on success of first spray and to communicate if 2nd spray required</p> <p>Rushbrook Drain – Confirm if this is a swamp drain and if it is okay to include it on the spraying plan</p> <p>Breakdown of pumps on auto and pumps that are monitored</p> <p>Greg to check drains for Pest Grasses</p> <p>Simon to check</p>	<p>Don’t plan on two sprays see how first spray goes</p> <p>Pumps are in auto for Winter</p> <p>External source to be used for rain event to start 8 hour notification on pumps</p>
--	---	--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Okarika power cable failure 24th September 2021. Cow electrocuted due to insulation defect in pump cable under steel cover, pump isolated, ducts cleaned. • Investigation completed (WDC and Hydrotech), Final report issued: 13 recommendations being worked through; one option includes re-routing cables, so they do not run across roadway/deck • WDC to organise independent electrical review of pump stations <p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>Questions raised by Justine regarding points 8, 10, 14 as all members should be able to call a vote not just chair and members not accepting that a vote can be overruled by WDC/Chair after a decision has been made. Ownership of scheme raised again as it has been to WDC many times, evidence of ownership is requested by pocket repots and focus group to be started (update was given to pocket reps in May meeting and minutes sent)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda to be sent 2 weeks prior to meetings to enable decisions to be made • Terms of Reference – Simon and Justine to work through this and send proposed changes out to the group for feedback <p>3 Waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WDC, Waimakarere and Timaru District Councils have engaged in legal action (class action) against DIA challenging ownership of Council owned assets. • Question of control/power to marriage assets. Where does ownership lie? • Justine Rowe suggest we restart focus group – time frame to be determined • Is WDC willing to give up asset ownership so a Trust can be set up? • Require transparency on what is going on <p>Hydraulic modelling updates</p> <p>Presentation from Jess Wallace (EWater) via Zoom on Hydraulic Modelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report sent out in September • Calibration done on 4 x pumps - (25 sub catchments) • Base model has been set up and working Some pumps not required in some locations – use storm gates instead. Comments made that the pumps may be too small and could be removed in 4 pockets to be replaced with gravity gates Scheme provides 175 million cubic metres of flood scheme storage. 40 million is in Otonga pocket • Group to get together and come up with ideas to present to Jess – 2 weeks’ time frame as the group does not want to incur cost of scoping scenario- work they wish to have a feasibility discussion first then we can request a decision re-funding either from the swamp scheme or outside sources 	<p>Greg will provide a table of the pumps which are or are not on auto during winter</p> <p>Amend protocol & re-circulate by email</p> <p>WDC to provide documented evidence to conform ownership of swamp scheme (long overdue)</p> <p>Restart focus group. Simon to work on solutions and ownership options</p> <p>Ideas to be Collated by 7th December then a meeting to be set up with Jess by 10th December</p>	
--	--	---	--

Living Water	Anh presented two years data July 2019 – 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There have been more improvements in Upper Catchment - Poor water clarity in lower Catchments - Monitors 6 sites quarterly each year - Flood data included in reports - Shortfin Tuna (Eels) in all pockets - Longfin in Otakirangi Pocket only (Longfin is endangered species) - Pest fish Gambusia found in all pockets - Catfish found in three pockets - Goldfish found in Otakirangi Pocket only - No riparian planting done for this year - Only 18 months left for monitoring - Completed final riparian planting from Living Water funding. More funding available from Kaipara Moana Remediation and Fonterra Tiaki Partnership 		
Next Meeting	Trisha to book next years meeting Feb, May, Aug, Nov And advise of dates Starting at 10.30am to 12.30pm	Trisha	

Meeting closed at 1.05pm

Meeting Actions

Point Number	Action	Responsible person	Timeframe Due	Notes
1	James Blackburn to look at Ken Finlayson's and Barry Thorne's property	Hai	June 2021	Completed Will be starting on 29 November subject to weather
2	Chantez to investigate organisations for possible funding of project which is on hold	Chantez	30 August 2021	Ongoing
3	Chantez and Geoff to organise/look into commercial eel fishing opportunity & arrange an expert to speak at next meeting	Chantez/Geoff	30 August 2021	Ongoing
4	Erecting weight limit signage on the road near pump station	Hai	30 June 21	Completed
5	1-D Hydraulic modelling result.	Jess Wallace	18 th June 2021	In Progress

Point Number	Action	Responsible person	Timeframe Due	Notes
6	Pump operating procedure and storm readiness – Version 1 approved, revision proposed in meeting agenda to refine	Hai	31 July 2021	In Progress
7	Using a Push-Cam CCTV to monitor if eels are in the pump wells Amended to agree Hydrotech will manually check	Hai / Hydrotech-Corey	30 June 2021	Estimated 29 November 2021 when water level decreases.
8	Hydrotech to provide a backup contact in case Greg is unavailable	Hydrotech - Greg	30 June 2021	Completed Dave Mison
9	Drain cleaning programme to be received from Pocket Representative	All Pocket Rep	10 June	Completed
10	Terms of Reference Simon and Justine to update draft following discussion in meeting and send proposal changes out to the group for feedback	Simon & Justine	7 th December	Open
11	Provide conceptual scenarios for EWater to Simon Charles by 7 th December which will be discussed in 2 hour feasibility meeting with Jess on approx. 10 th December	All Pocket Reps	7 th December	Open
12	Simon to send out Northpower letter	Simon	15 th December	Open
13	For Financials advise on actuals vs budgets and power reporting - \$253k or \$215k	Simon	15 th December	Open
14	Hai to check when spraying started on 20 th November as advised	Hai	3 rd December	Open
15	Separate meeting to be set up to discuss operating with no spare unit for 240HP pump and alternatives to buying a new pump after EWater modelling scenario feasibility meeting	Simon	20 th December	Open
16	WDC provide June Tuna death count to Chantez	Hai	20 th December	Open
17	Hydrotech to update by February on success of first spray and to communicate if 2 nd spray required	Greg	15 th February	Open
18	Rushbrook drain – confirm if this is a swamp drain and if it	Hai	10 th December	Open

Point Number	Action	Responsible person	Timeframe Due	Notes
	is okay to include it on the spraying plan			
19	Greg will provide a table of the pumps which are or are not on auto during winter	Greg	20 th December	Open
20	Amend protocol and re-circulate by email	Simon	20 th December	Open
21	WDC to update on electrical review in next meeting and change to mounted ramp to over cable	Hai	31 st January	Open
22	WDC to provide documented evidence to confirm ownership of swamp scheme (long overdue)	Simon	31 st December	Open
23	Restart fortnightly focus group Simon to work on solutions and ownership options (not a Friday afternoon)	Simon	31 st December	Open