

**MINUTES OF WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL
FINANCE, ASSURANCE & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL, CORONATION SQUARE, WAIROA
ON TUESDAY, 16 APRIL 2024 AT 1:30 PM**

PRESENT: Cr Jeremy Harker, Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, Mr Philip Jones, Cr Benita Cairns,

IN ATTENDANCE: **Gary Borg** (Pouwhakarae – Pūtea/Tautāwhi Rangapū | Group Manager Finance and Corporate Support), **Hinetaakoha Viriaere** (Pouwhakarae Whakamahere me te Waeture | Group Manager Planning & Regulatory), **Michael Hardie** (Pouwhakarae – Hua Pūmau | Group Manager Assets and Infrastructure), **Juanita Savage** (Pouwhakarae Rātonga Hapori me te Whakawhanake | Group Manager Community Services and Development), **Sarayde Tapine** (Kaiurungi Kaupapa Here me Mana Ārahi | Policy and Governance Advisor), **Jacobus Meree-Meyer** (Kaiwhakahaere Pūtea | Finance Manager), **Steve Baker** (Tautoko Whakaora | Recovery Support Officer via Zoom),

1 KARAKIA

The opening karakia was given by Cr Eaglesome-Karekare.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/199

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

Seconded: Cr Benita Cairns

That the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor Craig Little and Cr Melissa Kaimoana be accepted and leave of absence granted.

CARRIED

3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

4 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair noted the mistake in the financials on page 37 of the agenda within Item 8.2 Monthly Report to 29 February 2024 and that this has been corrected. A correct printout of the page was provided on the day to committee members.

The Chair also noted that he will begin discussions with the Mayor on his return about the committee's work programme due to light agendas and ensuring the committee is receiving adequate assurance over the risks and health and safety to the Council.

5 LATE ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A maximum of 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to speak on any item on the agenda. Up to 5 minutes per person is allowed. As per Standing Order 14.14 requests to speak must be made to the meeting secretary at least one clear day before the meeting; however this requirement may be waived by the Chairperson.

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/200

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

Seconded: Cr Jeremy Harker

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 26 March 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Cr Harker raised the issues around the risks to ratepayers around the flood protection that is currently going on in recovery and the Chair advised that this will be further discussed under item 8.1 Wairoa Recovery Update April 2024.

8 GENERAL ITEMS

8.1 WAIROA RECOVERY UPDATE APRIL 2024

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/201

Moved: Cr Benita Cairns

Seconded: Mr Philip Jones

The Tautoko Whakaora - Recovery Support RECOMMENDS that Committee receive the report.

CARRIED

The Chair asked if it would be possible to look at the total costs of managing the recovery office of what has been spent, what has been received, if there is any more funding to be received and what is left for the ratepayer to pick up.

The Recovery Officer advised he would send the report that goes to Council that identifies costings within recovery since the event to date with EOC costs associated with running the EOC unit during response and welfare costs incurred from distributing food, helicopter flights, fuel, etc to

the community. He noted that under each work package there is a funding received as well as expenditure to date and forecasted expenditure through to 30 June 2024.

The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support advised that the forecasted expenditure described above is defined as funding received by Council and Council spending it and that this will need to be connected with the outcomes.

Cr Harker raised his point earlier about being aware of risks to ratepayers including state highways 2 and 38, kiwirail and in particular the flood plain mitigation and the plan and costings that surrounds this. He noted that Council need to identify the risks within recovery as this will assist Council in assessing the levels of service that the Council can provide to the community.

The Chair agreed noting the importance of identifying and mitigating these risks before impacting the community.

Members discussed the impact of land categorisation on insurance for properties noting the change in land classification to 2C in Wairoa and lack of notification surrounding this. The Group Manager – Planning and Regulatory advised that notification will be going out to the public soon about this change.

The Recovery Support Officer advised that the recovery office is applying to Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) for an extension to the silt and debris fund to 30 June 2024. Members sought clarification around whether HBRC made a decision for the fund to only be applied to woody debris as Wairoa still have homes and businesses with silt under them.

Cr Harker noted the need for a risk register to identify what the risks are to the Council and what can be done to mitigate those risks. All members agreed.

8.2 MONTHLY REPORT TO 29 FEBRUARY 2024

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/202

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

Seconded: Cr Jeremy Harker

The Finance Manager RECOMMENDS that Committee receive the report.

CARRIED

The Finance Manager spoke briefly to the report advising that corrections have been made to page 37 of the agenda (statement of cashflows) and this has been circulated with members.

Members acknowledged the amount of grants and subsidies mentioned in the report. The Chair

acknowledged the doubled figure in trade and other receivables than what was initially thought in the annual plan and asked if there is a trend of outstanding rates increasing. The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support advised the committee that currently the rates increase is not looking distictively bad, however, land categorisation and the progression of flood protection may impact this.

The Chair advised identifying a line between recovery work and BAU work to identify how much of an impact recovery has had on BAU work as well as the impact on performance measures due to the efforts required for recovery. Members agreed and briefly discussed the assurance of doing essential work vs BAU work and prioritising work to identify the levels of service the Council can provide to the community.

The Meeting closed at 2:30pm with a closing karakia given by Cr Eaglesome-Karekare.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Finance, Assurance & Risk Committee Meeting held on 14 May 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON