KARAKIA

The meeting was opened with a karakia conducted by S Bragg.

APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTIONS

Apologies were received and sustained from Cherie Williams and Clare Williams for absence.

CARRIED

1 APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIR, DEPUTY CHAIR AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2017 – M Griffin (Facilitator, ECan) and Zone Committee Members

G Edge suggested that the Committee consider deferring the elections until the Rūnanga representatives, Clare Williams and Cherie Williams, were present.

Moved G Edge seconded S Stewart

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) Defers the appointment of Chair, Deputy Chair and Regional Committee Representative until all members of the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee are present.

LOST

G Edge sought advice regarding protocol from S Bragg who noted, there was no guarantee of full attendance at any meeting and supported the Committee proceeding with the election process.

M Griffin assumed the Chair for the duration of the election process and called for nominations for the role of Chair.
D Ashby nominated by C McKay, seconded by G Walton. G Edge was nominated by S Stewart, seconded by J Roper-Lindsay. D Ashby and G Edge accepted the nominations. The Committee voted by ballot and D Ashby was announced as Chair.

M Griffin then called for nominations for Deputy Chair.

G Edge was nominated by S Stewart, seconded C Latham. G Walton was nominated by C McKay seconded by D Ashby. G Edge and G Walton accepted the nominations. The Committee voted by ballot and Grant Edge was announced as Deputy Chair.

M Griffin called for nominations for the Committee’s representative to the Regional Committee. C Latham was appointed as the Committee’s representative to the Regional Committee uncontested.

Moved G Edge seconded S Stewart

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(b) Appoints committee member D Ashby as Chair.
(c) Appoints committee member G Edge as Deputy Chair.
(d) Appoints committee member C Latham as the CWMS Regional Committee representative for 2017.

CARRIED

D Ashby assumed the Chair. He commented on nutrient issues and looked forward to continued consultation and communication with the farming community. He also acknowledged G Edge’s leadership, as acting Chair since mid-2016.

REGISTER OF INTEREST

The Committee noted the Register of Interest.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 13 February 2017

C McKay requested a correction; that ‘Commissioner’ be replaced with ‘Councillor’ regarding any references to her role in ECan.

Moved J Roper seconded C McKay

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) Amends the minutes as follows:

- Replace “Commissioner” with “Councillor” for references to C McKay’s role.
- Item 3, end of paragraph 1; add “due to the absence of a number of Committee members.”
- Matters Arising; correction “Tuahiwi Stream” to “Ruataniwha”.
- Item 5, last paragraph; correction “trail” to “trial”.
- Item 8, paragraph 5; correction “50 hectares” to “95 hectares”.
- Item 8, paragraph 10; replace “big landowners” with “stake holders”.

CARRIED
AND subject to (a) above,

(b) **Confirms** the circulated minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held 13 February 2017, as a true and accurate record.

**CARRIED**

**MATTERS ARISING**

Item 6: With respect Zone Committee members taking a lead role in specific projects, D Ashby believed a regular reporting mechanism, to the Committee, was required.

Item 6.1: G Edge queried the process around the First 500 Springhead Protection Programme funding noting it required consultation with the Rūnanga, and sought clarification on whether the Committee had the authority to make such a decision.

S Bragg confirmed that the process was sound, adding that Immediate Steps (IMS) applications were received by the Rūnanga representatives for review/assessment before being forwarded to the appropriate Committees. The applications do not usually return to the full Rūnanga for consultation as their representatives have delegated authority. A Arps supported S Bragg’s comments that Rūnanga representatives are consulted early in the process and significant sites/issues discussed/considered before it reaches the Committee.

G Edge referred members to an ECAN Guide to Managing Waterways, and asked the ECAN staff to see if the documents could be updated for redistribution.

Regarding Matters Arising: S Stewart provided a brief update on the Cam River (Ruataniwha). She advised the Cam River Rehabilitation Subcommittee would reconvene when it receives the report from Dr. Hudson.

Regarding item 5: S Stewart sought an update on the request for a presentation from the CAREX group. M Griffin replied the group had not been available for the Committee’s March meeting but staff would work with them on a suitable date to present any new findings to the Committee.

S Stewart enquired about a water typology report referring to the recent announcement on Fresh Water Policy by Dr. Nick Smith, Minister for the Environment. She advised that the Waimakariri District Council (WDC) was submitting on the report. S Stewart queried whether ECAN would be putting in a submission. C McKay replied that ECAN would submit on the draft report and were also considering applying for funding for several projects.

Regarding item 6 – Regional Committee Meeting – 13 December 2016 update: S Stewart enquired about an update on the work programme for the Recreation and Amenity Working Group. Staff would circulate an update to Committee members.

Regarding item 6.1 – Action List: S Stewart sought an update on the Waterway Care publication. G Edge clarified the documentation, soon to be updated by ECAN staff, should address S Stewart’s query.

**3 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

3.1 Penny Wright introduced herself as a resident who has lived and worked the Waimakariri for a number of years, including working as a Veterinarian. Her work is now predominantly involved with management of pest control.

P Wright presented a PowerPoint, to support her concerns that the *Holcaspis brevicula* (*H. brevicula*), a species of ground beetle endemic to the Canterbury
Plains, had been misrepresented in a report to the Committee on Biodiversity. She stated there had been discussions with the Rūnanga regarding the issue since 2006 and the impact development and farming would have on the beetle’s native habitat. She noted that when the land was originally consented for dairy farming, five submissions were received by ECAn regarding the possible effect on the beetle’s habitat.

P Wright referenced a map which identifies the areas where the beetle used to be found in the Eyrewell Forest. Since the farm developments, the known locations of the beetles have been clear felled. She expressed concern that this had occurred and at the lack of detail being reported by staff.

She was currently working to preserve a sixteen-hectare block of Kānuka remnant in the vicinity. G Edge advised IMS funding for a protection of a dry land Kānuka block had been withdrawn by the committee due to lack of landowner engagement. Staff would follow up the matter with P Wright.

J Roper-Lindsay queried the use of satellite mapping, as opposed to engaging with those who have local knowledge of the area and where there are unique species of flora and fauna.

D Ashby enquired what support P Wright was seeking from the Committee. P Wright believed the Current State Biodiversity report from staff did not truly reflect the current state of biodiversity in the area and wanted to raise awareness with the Committee on the matter. Paul Reese, WIL Environmental Manager, clarified that Ngai Tahu Development had identified the biodiversity on the land being developed and were prepared to work with interested parties on a solution. C Latham was confident that if farmers were aware of areas of national significance, then they would be supportive of preserving it.

3.2 Paul Reese, Waimakariri Irrigation Limited (WIL), updated the Committee on the progress being made on Farm Environment Plans.

He advised the WIL consent required all farm plans be done by September 2016 with audits to be completed by September 2017. This was progressing well with the allocation of grades ranging from A-D (with A being the highest grade). Currently one third of the plans were audited, with the majority of the plans graded as B or C.

P Reese reiterated that if farmers were made aware of significant issues, they would be more likely to take action. He had heard anecdotally of immediate improvements on some farms. D Ashby commented that Management and Risk planning was a robust process which required farmers to provide evidence on how they were adhering to their plan. He added that ECAn has led the process and set the criteria on how the properties would be audited. He highlighted that all the auditors were certified.

P Reese identified the main issues as water management, irrigation scheduling and management of irrigation systems. WIL would continue to ensure the process was being adhered to and managed appropriately.

G Edge enquired, how Good Management Practice fits into a farmer’s Environmental Management plan. P Reese replied the process was thorough adding that matters relating to biodiversity, although not explicit, were already part of the discussion, including the management of animal species and how they could be protected. He added that Ngāi Tahu had been briefed on the Farm Environment Plan process.
J Roper-Lindsay queried when the GMP would be updated. A Arps advised that Farm Environment Plans covered practical actions, highlighting a recent workshop for the auditors which had focused on practical applications.

C Latham questioned the auditing fee. P Reese outlined the time involved with an audit, including pre-audit research, writing up the report, travel time and costs. The focus is on specific matters of greatest risk, rather than the whole operation.

4 COMMITTEE UPDATES – Zone Committee Members, A Arps (Waimakariri Zone Delivery Team Leader, ECan) and M Griffin (Facilitator, ECan)

4.1 Regional Committee Meeting – 14 February 2017
It was advised that G Edge had been co-opted onto the Recreation and Amenity Working Group.

4.2 Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan – ‘Omnibus’ Plan Change 4
G Edge advised that the link on ECan’s website did not work and requested a hardcopy of the plan. Staff would follow up the issue and advise members when the link operational. C McKay advised that the full plan change had been included the agenda for the Regional Council’s March meeting.

4.3 Lees Valley Farmers Group Briefing – Initial Response from ECan
It was noted that the response followed from the Committee’s briefing at its February meeting.

A Picken provided a brief update on the plan outlining key issues.

Regarding Issue 5: C Latham believed that it had not been accurately identified or interpreted. The issue was not about amalgamation of farms but about two things; firstly, whether there should be any future irrigation permitted in Lees Valley; and secondly whether it was fair that a farm should be subject to the rule (or possible rule) requiring consent to farm (in relation to winter feed area) purely on the physical size of the farm and not for any water related matters or even the identification of water issues associated with the farm.

Regarding Issue 3: Matt Dodson clarified the intention was to acknowledge land use activities do have an effect on water quality. A member of the Lees Valley Farmers Group added that although they understood that regulations were in place for all to adhere to, they believed that the Lees Valley was a unique area and required specific consideration. D Ashby clarified the Committee would discuss the matter further and emphasised the Committee was only at the beginning of the process and no formal decisions had been made. The Committee was engaged with the landowners and would continue to do so.

4.4 Waimakariri Zone Delivery – Update
4.5 Zone Committee 2016 Annual Report
4.6 Zone Committee Engagement & Communications
4.7 Action List

Moved C McKay seconded J Roper-Lindsay
THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

(a) Receives these updates for its information and with regard to the committee’s 5 Year Outcomes and 2017 community engagement priorities.

CARRIED

5 GENERAL BUSINESS AND FUTURE MEETING PRIORITIES – Chair and M Griffin (Facilitator, ECan)

5.1 Regarding the Clean Water Discussion Document (Discussion Document): G Edge would like more discussion on this, adding the maps which identify swimmable rivers in the Waimakariri are incomplete. He believed rivers in the district that the community value for contact recreation, needed to be consulted on and identified; this includes waterways of significance to the Rūnanga. G Edge would like an outline of the changes to the National Policy Statement (NPS) as it relates to the Waimakariri, so it is catered for in the sub-regional plan.

5.2 C McKay clarified that ECan and WDC were preparing submissions to the Discussion Document. J Roper-Lindsay reminded members that they could submit as individuals.

G Edge asked if it was possible for the Committee to see, and comment, on the draft submissions. G Meadows replied Council would be considering a draft submission to the Discussion Document at its April meeting, adding the Committee were welcome to view it and provide feedback. G Meadows advised there was nothing new proposed in the NPS, and was similar to the Next Steps for Fresh Water Consultation Document. G Edge responded that according to the RMA, there was no definition for different types of waterways, unlike the IMS. He would like to see all types of waterways given appropriate classifications.

G Edge noted an article in a local newspaper where a group had lost confidence with, and pulled out of, the Land and Water Forum. He also noticed an article in The Press regarding prosecution case for illegal discharge of dairy effluent by a Rangiora dairy farm. He also requested a briefing from WDC on stock water races.

5.3 C Latham commented on the water discharged from the Southbrook settling ponds which had been identified by the Committee. She stated it has been ongoing for a number of years and requested an update from staff. S Stewart advised the possible cause was ducks and that sediment removal and planting had been recommended as a possible solution. An update on progress and the process would be reported back to the Committee at a later date.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS CLOSED AT 3.39PM.

CONFIRMED

________________________
Chairperson

________________________
Date
WORKSHOP

6  **WAIMAKARIRI KEY ISSUES SUMMARY** – B Nicholas and M Griffin (Facilitators, ECan)

7  **KEY DECISION AREAS AND SOLUTIONS PROGRAMME SCHEDULE - WORKSHOP** – B Nicholas and M Griffin (Facilitators, ECan)

8  **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – WORKSHOP** – B Nicholas and M Griffin (Facilitators, ECan)