



greater WELLINGTON  
THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

## **Report 04.605**

28 October 2004

File: E/6/1/4

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# **Minutes of the First Meeting of the Triennium of the Greater Wellington Regional Council held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Thursday, 28 October 2004 at 9.30am**

## **Present**

Councillors Aitken, Baber, Buchanan, Evans, Glensor, Greig, Kirton, Laidlaw, Long, McDavitt, Shields, Turver and Wilde

## **Officers Present**

Messrs Darroch, Harris and Dr Hastie

## **Powhiri**

The Powhiri began with a karanga by June Jackson (Te Ati Awa). This was followed by a karakia and whaikōrero by Sam Jackson (Te Ati Awa, Te Arawa). Iwi representatives then sang the waiata 'Ma Wai Ra'. Rawiri Faulkner (Maori Policy Advisor) responded to the whaikōrero on behalf of the Councillors present. The Councillors then joined him with the waiata 'Ehara I te mea'. This concluded the Powhiri.

## **Introduction**

Mr Harris, Chief Executive, welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Council for the new triennium. Mr Harris especially thanked the tangata whenua for their welcome and said their presence greatly enhanced the occasion. Mr Harris also welcomed the newly elected Councillors as Greater Wellington embarked on an exciting new term of office.

Mr Harris welcomed the distinguished guests including the Hon Marian Hobbs, Minister for the Environment, David Ogden, the newly elected Mayor of Hutt City, Adrienne Staples, the newly elected Mayor of South Wairarapa District Council and Kerry Prendergast, the re-elected Mayor of Wellington City, the members of Parliament Darren Hughes, MP for Otaki and Winnie Laban MP for Mana. Mr Harris concluded by welcoming other distinguished guests, families, friends, colleagues, stakeholders and staff.

Mr Harris said he would remain as Chairperson of the meeting until the Council Chairperson had been elected. There were a number of formal matters to be considered before the election took place.

01 **Apologies**

There were no apologies.

02 **Declaration by Councillors**

**Report 04.602**

File: E/02/02/01

The Councillors, in the presence of Hon Marian Hobbs, Minister for the Environment and MP for Wellington Central and the Chief Executive, then came forward in groups of two and made the following declaration required by Clause 14, Schedule 7, of the Local Government Act 2002:

*I, AB, declare that I will faithfully and impartially, and according to the best of my skill and judgment, execute and perform, in the best interests of the Wellington Region, the powers, authorities, and duties vested in, or imposed upon me, as a member of the Wellington Regional Council by virtue of the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, or any other Act.*

03 **Election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson**

**(1) Procedure**

**Report 04.597**

File: E/09/07/07

*Resolved*

*(Cr Evans,/Cr McDavitt)*

*That Council:*

*(1) Adopts voting system A (election by the majority of members) as described in Report 04.597 for the election of the Council Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.*

*(2) Agrees that, in the event of a tie under voting system (A), the candidate to be excluded from the next round of voting is resolved by lot as described in section 3.1 of Report 04.597.*

**(2) Election of Chairperson**

Mr Harris then called for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

*Councillor Buchanan was nominated by Councillor Laidlaw and seconded by Councillor Long.*

There being no further nominations, Councillor Buchanan was declared the elected Chairperson of the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Members confirmed the election by acclamation.

### **(3) Newly-elected Chairperson to make Declaration**

**Report 04.604**

File: E/02/02/01

Councillor Buchanan, the newly-elected Chairperson, in the presence of Hon Marian Hobbs, Minister for the Environment and MP for Wellington Central and the Chief Executive, made the following declaration required by Clause 14, Schedule 7, of the Local Government Act 2002:

*I, Ian Michael Buchanan, declare that I will faithfully and impartially, and according to the best of my skill and judgment, execute and perform, in the best interests of the Wellington Region, the powers, authorities, and duties vested in, or imposed upon me, as the Chairperson of the Wellington Regional Council by virtue of the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, or any other Act.*

### **(4) Newly-elected Chairperson to take Chair**

Councillor Buchanan then took the Chair as the newly elected Chairperson of the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Councillor Buchanan thanked members for the honour and confidence shown in him in being elected as the Chairperson for the next three years.

Councillor Buchanan said he would like to add his thanks to those of Mr Harris and welcomed all visitors to today's meeting. Councillor Buchanan especially welcomed his wife Jane and daughter Kelly, members of Parliament and Mayors, families, friends and distinguished guests.

Councillor Buchanan thanked members of Ara Tahi for their welcome. Greater Wellington had a strong relationship with the tangata whenua of the region.

Councillor Buchanan also welcomed the Hon Marian Hobbs and said Council looked forward to the continuing partnership with Government.

Councillor Buchanan said there were real challenges ahead particularly in transport funding, regional growth and in other areas. Greater Wellington had a good and strong team to move the region forward over the next three years.

**(5) Election of Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor Buchanan then called for nomination for the position of Deputy Chairperson of the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

*Councillor McDavitt was nominated by Councillor Buchanan and seconded by Councillor Turver.*

There being no further nominations, Councillor Buchanan declared Councillor McDavitt the elected Deputy Chairperson of the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

**04 Address by Hon Marian Hobbs, Minister for the Environment and MP for Wellington Central**

Hon Marian Hobbs then addressed the meeting.

Hon Marian Hobbs thanked Greater Wellington for their invitation to welcome the new Council for the next triennium. She congratulated all Councillors for their success in the recent elections.

Following her speech (copy attached) Hon Marian Hobbs concluded that Government looked forward to an increasing partnership with Council in challenges facing the Wellington region.

Councillor Buchanan thanked Hon Marian Hobbs for the significant thoughts she had shared with Councillors and guests.

**05 Electoral Officer's Declaration: 2004 Elections**

**Report 04.603**

File: E/09/07/05

*Resolved*

*(Chairperson/Cr Kirton.)*

*That the report be received.*

**06 Laws Affecting Councillors**

**Report 04.601**

File: E/02/02/01

David Harmer presented his report.

*Resolved*

*(Cr Turver/Cr McDavitt.)*

*That the report be received and the contents noted.*

07 **Committee Arrangements**

**Report 04.600**

File: E/06/02/06

*Resolved*

*(Chairperson/Cr Kirton)*

*That Council:*

- (1) *Establishes the following Committees:*
  - *Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee*
  - *Policy, Finance and Strategy Sub-committee*
  - *Environment Committee*
  - *Landcare Committee*
  - *Passenger Transport Committee*
  - *Regional Land Transport Committee*
  - *Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee*
  - *Utility Services Committee*
- (2) *Asks the Landcare Committee to review the on-going need for the Hutt River Advisory Committee.*
- (3) *Comprehensively reviews its committee arrangements when it adopts a new Long Term Council Community Plan in 2006.*
- (4) *Adopts the Terms of Reference for Council and Standing Committees contained in Attachment 1 to Report 04.60 subject to the following changes:*
  - *adds the following specific responsibility to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee "Considering and making recommendations on the Council's communication and marketing activities"*
  - *amends clause 4.3 to read "Take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi as outlined in the Charter of Understanding between Te Tangata Whenua o Te Upoko o te Ika a Maui and Greater Wellington Regional Council and facilitate participation of Maori in Council decision-making processes"*
  - *adds the following to the Preface "The Council will comprehensively review its committee arrangements when it adopts a new Long Term Council Community Plan in 2006".*

- *removes all requirements to appoint outside members where the member of a single member constituency is not a member of the Committee, and replaces this with a requirement that each Committee consider whether it could function more effectively by the appointment of members from outside of the Council.*

- (5) *Continues with Ara Tahi in its present form.*
- (6) *Notes the issue of Ara Tahi Iwi representation on Council Committees is a topic that will be discussed over the coming months.*
- (7) *Notes that council will need to formally delegate powers to its Committees.*

## 08 **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11.50am to resume on Tuesday 9 November 2004 at 9.30am.

## **Tuesday, 9 November 2004 at 9.30am**

The meeting reconvened on Tuesday, 9 November 2004 at 9.30am

### **Present**

Councillors Buchanan (Chairperson) Aitken, Baber, Evans, Glensor, Greig, Kirton, Laidlaw, Long, McDavitt, Shields, Turver and Wilde

### **Officers Present**

Messrs Allard, Benham, Darroch, Forlong, Harris, Turfrey, Wright and Drs Bradbury, Hastie and Watson

## 09 **Apologies**

There were no apologies.

## 10 **Reconstitution of the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum**

### **Report 04.601**

File: E/07/07/06

*Resolved*

*(Cr Long/Cr Turver)*

*That Council:*

- (1) Agrees to establish with Upper Hutt, Hutt, Porirua and Wellington City Councils, and Kapiti Coast District Council the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum, as a joint committee under clause 30(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.*
- (2) Agrees to elect two members and an alternate to represent Greater Wellington on the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum.*
- (3) Agrees to the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum Terms of Reference as attached to Report 04.622.*

## 11 **Appointment to Committees and Other Organisations**

### **Report 04.614**

File: E/06/02/06

*Resolved*

*(Chairperson/Cr McDavitt)*

*That Council:*

- (1) Makes the committee appointments as set out in Attachment 1 to this Report.*
- (2) Delegates to the Environment Committee the power to appoint a member to represent the Council on the Wellington Regional Environment Agency.*
- (3) Delegates to the Landcare Committee the power to appoint a member to represent the Council on the Wellington Conservation Board.*
- (4) Delegates to the Landcare Committee the power to appoint a member to represent the Council on the Whitireia Park Board.*
- (5) Appoints Councillor Shields to the Pauatahanui Inlet Community Trust.*
- (6) Nominates Councillor Aitken for appointment to the Carter Observatory Board.*
- (7) Appoints the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson to represent Council at Local Government New Zealand Zone 4.*

- (8) *Appoints the Chairperson to represent Council on Local Government New Zealand Regional Affairs Committee and note that Councillor Shields will attend as a member of LGNZ representing Regional Councils.*
- (9) *Appoints Councillor Laidlaw to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust.*
- (10) *Appoints the Chairperson and Councillor Wilde as the Council's representatives on the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum and Councillor Turver as the Alternate.*
- (11) *Appoints the Council Chairperson and Chairperson of the Environment Committee as the Council's representatives on the Ara Tahi and note that the Council's representatives on the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum should attend Ara Tahi Forum meetings.*
- (12) *Amends the Terms of Reference for the Regional Land Transport Committee so that the membership becomes four Regional Councillors and the Council Chairperson ex officio.*
- (13) *Amends the Terms of Reference for the Policy, Finance and Strategy Sub-committee to:*
  - (a) *change its name to "Planning and Monitoring Sub-committee.*
  - (b) *include in its terms of reference audit and other functions that may be assigned as appropriate.*
  - (c) *make the membership all Councillors for hearing submissions on the LTCCP and Annual Plan and four members and the Council Chairperson ex-officio for other matters.*
- (14) *Delegates to the Councillor representatives on the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee the power to make the required external appointments to that Committee.*
- (15) *Notes that the appointments of directors to the Council's companies will be considered at a subsequent meeting of Council later this year.*
- (16) *Notes that the Reference Group for "Be the Difference" will continue with membership from the Chairs of Landcare, Environment, Passenger Transport and Utilities and the Chairperson (ex officio).*



12 **Nomination for LGNZ National Council**

**Report 04.621**

File: E/07/07/06

*Resolved*

*(Cr McDavitt/Cr Laidlaw)*

*That Council:*

*Seconds the nomination of Councillor Shields as a regional sector representative on the National Council of Local Government New Zealand.*

13 **Remuneration of Elected Members**

**Report 04.615**

File: E/05/02/03

*Resolved*

*(Cr Turver/Cr Kirton)*

*(1) That Council adopts the following annual salaries:*

- Council Deputy Chairperson with Committee - \$65,485*
- Committee Chairpersons - \$62,757*
- Chairperson Planning and Monitoring Sub-committee - \$52,525*
- Councillors - \$42,058*

*(2) That the current Policy on Elected Members' Allowances and Expenses be re-confirmed with the following amendment to section 2.8 Mobile phones:*

*"The Council will provide a mobile phone for the Chairperson and cover all expenses associated with the use of that phone. The phone remains the property of the Council. The Chairperson will not receive the mobile phone allowance paid to other members".*

14 **Proposed Meeting Schedule for Remainder of 2004**

**Report 04.616**

File: E/06/02/02

*Resolved*

*(Cr Kirton/Cr Greig)*

*That Council adopts the meeting schedule outlined in this report*

15 **Interregnum Decisions**

**Report 04.618**

File: E/09/07/07

*Resolved*

*(Cr Long/Cr Greig)*

*That Council receives the report*

16 **Questions**

There were no questions.

17(1) **General**

There were no matters of general business.

The meeting closed at 9.43am.

Cr I M Buchanan  
Chairperson

Date:

# Hon Marian Hobbs

Minister for the Environment, Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control, Minister Responsible for The National Library, Archives NZ, Urban Affairs, Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs (Official Development Assistance), Associate Minister for Biosecurity, Associate Minister of Education



28 October 2004

## Speech Notes

**Welcoming of new GWRC,  
Greater Wellington Regional Council Office  
142 Wakefield Street, Wellington,  
11am, Thursday Oct 28 2004**

1

*Kia ora e hoa ma*

Introduction *Thanks for inviting me to be here*

~~I'm pleased to be here today to welcome the new council~~  
for the next triennium, Congratulations to you all for  
being successful in your campaign to join the Greater

Wellington Regional Council. — *None of you are strangers to community service — + the same for those in great gallery —*

→ I have 2 relationships with you:

- ① as local member of Part ~~and~~ *and* facilitator of local govt + look after your bills.
- ② as Min. for Environ — our rel. is co-dependent →

*my colleagues  
Winn's table  
Dawn Hoyle  
Margaret Wellington  
Kerry, David,  
+ local M's meeting  
Shant Macdonell  
Pauline  
+ family*

2

Greater Wgh. has now given me a loss of sleep.

**Your regional council has been proactive and very successful in protecting, preserving and enhancing Wellington's environment and in providing services for its residents.**

3 areas I want to touch on.

Transport  
Flood hazards.  
Daily effluent.

**Public transport in the region has come along in leaps and bounds.**

The past three years has **seen -**

- **30** million passengers used Wellington's **public** transport services during **2002**,
- the **\$10.9** million Lambton **Bus** and Rail Interchange opened **in 2003**, and
- **this** year a new **network of bus** services have **been** introduced **in** the region.

In **May** this year the government **was** approached **by** Greater Wellington Regional Council to identify where central and local government partnership can further this good work. The Wellington, Transport Project was devised and action has started already.

5

Last month an assessment of Wellington's transport **needs** and potential funding sources were undertaken and a discussion paper asking for comments on Wellington's western corridor was realised earlier this month.

*And I haven't forgotten the Hains ~~and~~ their upgrades —*

6

This proactive approach to creating partnerships between Wellington's Regional and local councils and **the** government is something to **be** applauded and an approach that **I hope** encourages **us to** work together on **other important projects in the region.**

*This working seamlessly is imp. for the community.*

*(last night in Hamilton — 10 councils working with LGRE / MFE / MED to find a way to handle efficiently Transport's new bus routes.)*

7

With experts recently warning that “**El Nino's** back and we **should all** be worried”, **hazard** management is a **hot** topic. Greater Wellington Regional Council **already** knows **this and has** acted.

**Your Hutt River Floodplain \_\_\_\_\_ Plan is a  
\_\_\_\_\_ council initiative to plan for the  
development of the Hutt \_\_\_\_\_ catchment \_\_\_\_\_ out  
flood control \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_**

**These systems were very much put to the test during the February floods of this year. They held up well. Flooding would have been more widespread and the damage far greater without this forward planning and the existing protection works established in part by the regional council.**

Further good work continues with a 40-year investment programme for flood protection in the Hutt Valley beginning this year -- a programme that you will be progressing in your new role on the council.



*Govt. is currently working with Regional Councils on a number of issues around flood management -- be it infrastructure / floodplain uses / insurance / maintenance.*

**From too much water to not enough, the Greater Wellington Regional Council has had an excellent record in providing water for its residents.**

**With rising population, pressure is on supply. However the council has been able to maintain a continuous supply of high quality drinking water for some years now.**



## **Dairy**

Ten years ago, **66** dairy farms in the Wairarapa had resource consent to discharge treated effluent into **watetways**. Greater Wellington Regional Council encouraged farmers to change to land-based waste-dumping systems as each consent came up for renewal.

13

**In** the late **1990s**, farmers and the council struck a deal to phase out **all** remaining consents. **As of** last month all **186** dairy farms in the Wairarapa are now spreading milking shed effluent back onto their paddocks. This is an excellent example of the regional council and dairy **farmers'** working **together** towards improving the environment.

14

**Non-point source discharges still remain a challenge,  
something that now needs to be looked at to ensure  
better stream health.**

*In Dec. we will be releasing a discussion doc. on issues surrounding water quality & water allocation. We will have your input.*

*Community Ed*

**The Greater Wellington Regional Council “Be the  
Difference” campaign has been up and running for  
nearly a year now.**

**Wellington’s residents said they wanted to do more to  
help the environment but were limited by time and  
needed more information on how to help. The “Be the  
Difference” campaign aims to harness this interest by  
encouraging households to improve the environment by  
making small changes to their everyday behaviours.**

**Members receive information packs three times a year, which provide simple and easy advice to residents. Over 7000 households have joined the programme so far, with the numbers increasing by the day.**

17

*Finally*

**The council provides valuable input into the Chief Executives' Environment Forum, which is jointly chaired by the Ministry for the Environment and the Hawkes Bay Regional Council.**

18

**The Chief Executives' Environment Forum is a meeting of regional authority and central government chief executives to discuss environmental issues of mutual concern and work towards joint programmes of action. Two highly successful meetings have been held so far with the third to be held early next year.**

**19**

**We look forward to continuing and expanding upon this sort of environmental partnership within your term in office.**

**20**

11  
—

**[Conclusion)**

The regional council has undertaken a wide variety of initiatives, which are having real results in the Wellington environment. I encourage you to take these **on and** help progress them further, as **well** as developing news ways of making Wellington a great place **to** live.

21

Once again, congratulations to you all. I wish you all the best and much success in your time on the council. I **look** forward to increasing partnership **and** input into **joint** work programmes with your council to work through the environmental challenges that Wellington **faces.**

22