

Minutes for Lake Rotorua Catchment Stakeholders Advisory Group, 16 July 2013

Novotel Hotel – Batten Room 1

Corner Tutanekai and Whakaue Streets, Rotorua, 9:15 am start

New Chair: Tanira Kingi (Collective representative)

Present:

- Māori Trustee: Arapeta Tahana (left 10:40 am)
 - Te Arawa Lakes Trust:
 - LWQS: Don Atkinson (arrived 9:35 am), Warren Webber
 - RDC: Cr Karen Hunt
 - Māori landowners: Tina Ngatai (NWTL, left 10:40 am)
 - Collective reps: Stuart Morrison, Wendy Roe, Gisele Schweizer, Christine Paterson, Murray Scott, Neil Heather
 - Small block holders: Karl Weaver
 - BOPRC: Cr Neil Oppatt, plus staff: Anna Grayling, Sarah Omundsen, Jenny Clarke (Minutes Secretary), Warwick Murray (left 11:45 am), Stephen Lamb, Karen Parcell, Kerry Gosling, Steph McDonald
 - Others: Simon Park, Headway Ltd & StAG secretariat; Margo Cairns (owner of Oturoa farm); Oliver Parsons (DairyNZ); Gwyn Morgan (Federated Farmers Policy); Lyn Deeson (Ruapehu Federated Farmers)
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Item 1: Karakia and welcome

By Tanira Kingi and Arapeta Tahana

Item 2: Apologies

Don Atkinson (lateness), Hera Naera, Arthur Warren, Joanne Carr, Tina / Arapeta (leaving 10:40 am)

Item 3: General business items to add

Warren Webber to speak on new Secretariat role

Item 4: Selection and confirmation of StAG Chair (done prior to Item 2)

Simon Park sought nominations for new Chair, following Stuart Morrison stepping down at the end of last meeting.

Nominated candidate – Tanira Kingi

Motion: That Tanira Kingi is new Chair

Nominated by: Cr Oppatt / seconded Warren Webber / All in favour / CARRIED

Items 5 and 6: Minutes of the previous StAG meeting - confirmation

No issues were raised regarding StAG minutes from 18 June 2013

Motion: Accept minutes as accurate

Moved Cr Hunt / seconded Giselle Schweizer/ CARRIED

Item 7: Nutrient allocation (with facilitation by Kerry Gosling and Steph McDonald)

a. An alternative approach to allocation and incentives from the Lake Rotorua Primary Producers Collective

Presentation by Gisele Schweizer and Stuart Morrison;

Model to be:

- Consistent with Oturoa Agreement
- Ideally Allocation and incentives models decided at the same time
- Seeking an alternative that will appeal to both farmers and Council

Facilitated discussion session

b. Allocation policy development process from here (Sarah Omundsen)

A paper on Allocation policy will be presented to Council on 17 September. On 16 August, a draft will be brought to StAG for purpose of response/approval.

Action point: Prepare draft allocation policy for circulation to StAG

(Sarah Omundsen and staff)

Item 8: Draft Incentive Framework paper (Anna Grayling)

Presentation of examples for discussion:

- Sustainable load allocation
- Higher allocation

Brainstorm draft of principles and key timeline milestones (see Appendix 1)

Item 9: General business

Warren Webber will cover Simon Park's role for 11 weeks (22 July – 5 October). He will also maintain an active part of the meeting discussion, with own views.

Administration - tasks, meeting schedules, resources, allowances

Reminder to fill out meeting fee claims regularly, particularly as end of year 2012-2013 has gone.

Next meeting: Tuesday 13 August (RDC Committee Rooms), 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Meeting finished at 12:25 pm

Appendix 1: Draft Principles and key timeline milestones

Rotorua Catchment Stakeholders Advisory Group

Agreed Statements

1. Collective proposition agreed as framework for continuing viability

- Collective farmer and community split
- Farmers are responsible/liable for component
- Below that shared responsibility/accountability of community and landowner (stated but not agreed)
- 5 year reviews supported
- Shortfall in 2032 – Review clause must address this possibility
- Define how the review will be done – developed by StAG

2. Need individual nutrient/farm management plans in place by 2015 aiming for a higher midpoint allocation to 2022 under principles of sector average

- May be informed by agreed benchmark levels, or other mechanism
- Who/how to be suggested by StAG
- Threshold above 40 ha
- Need to include consider impacts on small holdings (2-39 ha)
- 2 to 40 ha based on APR consultants' report (due September)

3. Two sectors okay for principles

- Acknowledge sector breakdown Dairy/Dairy Support/Dry Stock
- Optimal consideration for Dairy Support still on the table
- Higher midpoint allocation to 2022 okay using sector average
- Plan for 2022 midpoint
- 70% of catchment target provided for in Oturoa Agreement – midway target is in the spirit of agreement

Other discussion

- Active Working space to 2022 is a positive (links with first principle)
 - [Acknowledges] LUC, Science, [developments in] On farm technology
- Resource consent parameters defined before 2022
- If no NDA issue until resource consent process [Council would be] concerned until consent raised
- Goodwill and voluntary
 - 2022 all farmers mandated (but variance on level of NDA mandate and accountability timelines)
 - staged process from 2015
- Public money for significant expenditure needs to be within a mandated framework for Council
- Proposal to put in standoff pad will need to be mandated
- Need certainty
- Original goal all [of the] full sustainable load to each property owner – 2015 milestone, 2017 first review
 - Now – Agreed load. Subsequent review of programme via 2022 review clause
 - Then final sustainable load will be allocated
- Need benchmarks and how close farmers are
- Business Plans need to be informed by benchmarking from industry (working group and expert panel)

Side Notes

- Pan-regional project
- Good to get agreed start point on benchmarking
- Words [in Oturoa Agreement] not okay – language important
- Concern re: definitions of responsibility and liability
- Flagged gorse – 240T/270T
- Language important for farmers
- Need to move ahead with funding and effort
- Money put to side for now
- Aim to get consensus on preferred option to put before Council:
 - StAG 13 August and BOPRC Council 17 September