

**AUCKLAND/WAIKATO FISH & GAME**

**Minutes of a Meeting of Council**  
**held at the NZ Deerstalkers Hall, Wairere Dr, Hamilton,**  
**on Saturday 14 October 2017 commencing at 11.00am.**

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** M. Young.

**Councillors:** G. Annan, C. Carey, D. Cocks, A. Kerr, P. Shaw, C. Sherrard, E. Williamson,

**Staff:** B. Wilson, D. Klee, J. Dyer.

**1. APOLOGIES**

N. Juby, W. Howard, S. Smith, B. Smith, A. Sintenie, M. Davis, A. Daniel.

It was moved;

**that the apologies be accepted.**

**Annan/Kerr CARRIED**

**2. POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM MEETING AGENDA:**

None declared.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 19 AUGUST 2017:**

It was moved;

**that the minutes of the previous meeting of 19 August 2017 be accepted as a true and correct record.**

**Cocks/Shaw CARRIED**

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Nil.

**6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BI-MONTHLY REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:**

Concern was expressed over the outcome of the Pukekohe Waste Water Treatment Plant consent hearing and the lack of input from WRC water quality experts. Mr Klee noted that he had requested a meeting with the science manager at the WRC to express Fish & Game's concerns.

In reply to a question, Mr Wilson informed that EcoFx would be pre baiting the Williamson Wetland later this month and putting out bait stations in early November.

Councillor Kerr expressed his disappointment over the lack of effort by pondholders in regards to the predator control programme, weed control, and general rubbish removal on the Williamson Wetland. Councillor Cocks disagreed, noting that it has been difficult to work on the wetland due to the wet winter and that it took some time for new pondholders to get established.

It was moved;

**that a letter be sent to all pondholders reminding them of their responsibilities, especially weed control and taking part in predator control programmes.**

**Kerr/Sherrard CARRIED**

The Chairman asked what could be done about the elevated levels of heavy metals in mallards. Mr Klee replied that the next stage of the research would be looking at the implications on human health. Preliminary results suggest that the flesh was ok to consume but offal consumption should be limited, similar to beef. There was also a need to track down the source path for copper. Cadmium from fertilizer is already acknowledged to be a problem in the Waikato.

Staff were thanked for the quality of the preseason fishing newsletter.

It was moved;

**that the CE Bimonthly report and Financial Statements be accepted.**

**Annan/Williamson CARRIED**

#### **7. OSH REPORT:**

It was moved;

**that the OSH Report for October 2017 be accepted.**

**Shaw/Sherrard CARRIED**

#### **8. COUNCILLOR FIELD TRIP UPDATE:**

Councillors Annan and Shaw noted that due to the requirements of the mallard banding programme they would probably be unable to attend the April 2017 Council meeting & fieldtrip if it was held in Owango. Councillor Carey was also unsure if he could attend. It was agreed that the fieldtrip did not need to coincide with a Council meeting and thus a March date would be preferable.

The meeting rose for lunch at 12.05pm and resumed at 1.00pm.

#### **9. GOVERNANCE/POLICY REVIEW:**

Councillors discussed the governance review emphasising the current excellent relationship between Councillors and staff.

It was moved;

**that the 2018 Governance Review be accepted.**

**Sherrard/Cocks CARRIED**

**that the adopted policies and positions be reaffirmed.**

**Cocks/Annan CARRIED**

#### **10. NZF&GC MEETING 29 SEPTEMBER 2017:**

Councillor Sherrard summarised the discussion held by the NZF&GC at their recent meeting. He noted that the new CE, Martin Taylor, would be starting on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **11. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Councillor Annan expressed his appreciation for the very informative reports by Dr Daniel.

It was moved;

**that the following reports be accepted:**

- **Whakapapa & Whanganui River Angler Use Monitoring Study**
- **Whakapapa River: 2017 Drift Dive Survey & Angler Use Update**

**Annan/Cocks CARRIED**

Councillor Kerr enquired as to whether Council owned the Polaris ATV used in the Angler Use Monitoring Study, and if so whether it was being serviced regularly. Mr Wilson replied that the ATV was purchased at a discount from Polaris and it was being serviced annually.

Mr Dyer informed that he had checked an angler on the way to the meeting who was participating in the annual Waikato River Fishing Competition. The angler had caught a large brown trout and he expressed his opinion that the brown trout caught this year were in exceptional condition.

Councillor Annan informed that he had been asked by Councillor Juby to raise the issue of a User Group fieldtrip around the F&G wetlands next year. It was agreed that a midweek fieldtrip could be arranged if there was sufficient interest from User Groups.

Councillor Sherrard advised that Southland F&G Councillors carried out the gamebird harvest survey phone calls and he suggested that this was a good opportunity for Councillors to talk to licence holders. Mr Klee replied that he was always looking for people to do the phone surveys and any assistance from Councillors would be much appreciated.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 1.30pm.