

LakesWater Quality Society Incorporated
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Ngati Pikio Rugby League Club
Rooms, Mourea, at 10.00 a.m. on
Monday 28 January 2008**

Karakia: Tai Eru

Welcome:

The Chair welcomed dignitaries – Hon Steve Chadwick (MP), Karen Hunt, Mike McVicker, Dave Donaldson from Rotorua District Council, Andrew von Dadelszen, Tipene Marr, Hawea Vercoe and John Cronin, Chair, from Environment Bay of Plenty, Brentleigh Bond, Neil Callaghan and Phillip Karauna from the Community Board, Ian McLean, Nick and Liz Miller, Life members, Jim Howland (ex Environment Waikato), Paul East, Tai Eru, and Eddie Grogan from EBOP. There were a further sixty seven members present.

Apologies:

John Keaney, Geoff Palmer, Kevin Winters, Neil Oppatt, Ian Noble, Jane Nees, Karen Summerhays, Malcolm Whitaker, Bob Martin, Warren Webber, Marcus and Jan Wilkins, Richard Wilson, Al and Lyn Spence, Jock Schuler, Maggie Bentley, Jim Koller, Toby Curtis
John Green/Don Atkinson

Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting:

The Chairman apologised for some members not receiving documents for the AGM via email because of spam filters and said that next year these would be sent out in the traditional way.
It was moved that the minutes be taken as read. *Accepted – John Green/Don Atkinson*

Matters Arising from the Minutes:

A typing error was pointed out by Gifford McFadden on page 2 of the minutes. The RMA Act was 1991 not 1919.

Chairman's Annual Report:

The report had been circulated so was not read. The Chairman summarised briefly an update of the Rotorua Lakes. Progress has been made, such as the Ohau Diversion wall and the Okawa Bay sewerage scheme at Rotoiti, completion of the Action Plan at Rotoehu and a herd home at Okaro. However, in many others we are not a lot further ahead and the biggest worry is Lake Rotorua itself. He believes that the residents of that lake have turned their backs on it. They need a representative group to lift the debate.

He said that it was important for Tarawera residents to understand that this lake is part of an eight lake system and while it does not have high nutrient problems yet it is important to monitor the lakes feeding into their system.

The Chairman commended Steve Chadwick, our local Member of Parliament and now Minister of Conservation who has been doing a lot of work in Wellington to help with RDC and EBOP's application for \$35 million funding for sewerage schemes. He noted that the impact of the Okawa Bay sewerage scheme appears to have made an enormous difference to water quality in their bay.

He announced that our Society is going to run a sixth Symposium in August 2008 on Nutrient Sensitive Zones to encourage the debate on water quality versus intensive farming.

It was moved that the Chairman's Report be accepted. *John Green/Don Atkinson*

Matters Arising from the Chairman's Report:

It was moved that this Annual General Meeting of the LakesWater Quality Society acknowledges with gratitude the long standing services given to it by Mr Paul Dell, and formally takes this opportunity to record its appreciation.

Accepted - Bob Armstrong/Nick Miller

Financial Report:

The Treasurer presented his report. He expressed sorrow at the recent death of our long time Auditor of the Society, Mr Jim Tavendale. He had always shown an active interest in LWQS and the Treasurer had appreciated his guidance in preparing the accounts. It was

recorded that his efforts were recognised and much appreciated and the deepest sympathy sent to his family.

The new Auditor is Mr Barry Lane, Iles Casey, Rotorua.

It was moved that the financial report for LakesWater Quality Society Inc., for the eighteen months ending on 30 September 2007, be received and approved and that Mr Barry Lane be appointed as Auditor for the 2007/08 year.

Approved - Brentleigh Bond/Liz Miller

Notice of Motion:

The Treasurer reported that this notice of motion had come about because our Society is now under the auspices of the Charities Commission. The balance date had been changed and the rules altered to achieve charitable status.

It was moved that the rules of the LakesWater Quality Society Inc. be altered as contained in the Notice of Motion -

1. BY DELETING sub clauses (d) to (q) of clause 3.
2. BY ADDING a new clause 4 as set out below:

POWERS

The powers of the Society are:

To carry out, assist in, and encourage educational and organising work in furtherance of any aims or objects of the Society.

To maintain and foster the interests of members by organising and conducting fund raising activities to further the aims and objects of the Society

To prepare and circulate amongst members of the Society and the general public educational information relating to water quality and aquatic weed control, and to hold public or private meetings for those purposes.

To promote membership of the Society amongst lake users and lake dwellers in the Rotorua district.

To subscribe to, become a member of and co-operate with any other Society whether incorporated or not whose aims and objects are charitable and altogether similar to those of this Society and to procure from and communicate to such society such information as may be likely to fall within the aims and objects of this Society.

To investigate, propose and make submissions to all local or public bodies charged with the obligation to monitor, control and/or improve water quality and aquatic weed control especially but not exclusively within the Rotorua Lakes regarding the policies of the said bodies in relation to all matters regarding the quality of the water and the control of weed especially but not exclusively within the Rotorua Lakes area

To institute proceedings at law to ensure the furtherance of the aims of the Society

To borrow or raise monies for the furtherance of the aims and objects of the Society either with or without security.

To secure in such manner as the Society shall think fit the repayments of any monies borrowed or raised by the Society and to give and execute mortgages, debentures or other instruments of security for such repayment.

To purchase, erect, build, take or lease or other wise obtain the use of occupation of and to manage, improve, develop, deter, maintain and repair

and to sell, let, lease, donate or otherwise dispose of real and personal property of every description.

To invest all or any of the monies held by the Society on the Society's behalf in and upon any investment authorised by the law for the time being in force in New Zealand for the investment by trustees of trust funds.

To retain and engage members of any profession and to employ any persons for carrying out the aims and objects of the Society.

To draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, cheques, bills of exchange, warrants and other negotiable securities or transferable instruments.

To do all things which are deemed necessary, convenient or incidental to the carrying out of any of the aims and objects of the Society.

3. BY ALTERING the Rules by amending the numbering following the insertion of the new clause 4 referred to above.

There was some concern expressed by members of the wide ranging roles and the Treasurer reported that this was necessary to run Symposia. Support was expressed by Life Member, Liz Miller, who said that LWQS was "blessed to have Brentleigh Bond as Treasurer". The Chairman agreed and said that these alterations had come about because the law had changed. Previously societies such as ours had come under the auspices of the Inland Revenue but were now governed by the Charities Commission and we had made some minor alterations to the rules to achieve charitable status.

Accepted – Brentleigh Bond/Paul East

Election of Officers:

Chairman	John Green	
Treasurer	Brentleigh Bond	
Secretary	Ann Green	
Committee	Don Atkinson	
	Sally Brock	
	Marcel van Leeuwen	(LORRA)
	Ian McLean	(L. Rotorua)
	Brian Stamp	
	Warren Webber	
	Phill Thomass	
	Graeme Shirley	(L.Rotoma action group)
	Jim Koller	(L.Rotoehu)
	Tai Eru	
	Terry Beckett	(L.Tarawera)
	Catherine Branson	(L.Rotoehu)
Co-opted	Jim Howland	David Packman

It was moved that the above nominees be accepted as the committee.

Approved – Liz Miller/Buzz Rathbone

General Business:

(1) *John La Roche* – moved that LWQS write a letter to Rick Vallance at Ngati Whakaue congratulating them on making a very responsible decision to cease dairy farming on the farm unit in Te Ngae Road. *Accepted – John La Roche/Marcel van Leeuwen*

(2) *John La Roche* – re Transfer Station at Curtis Road, Lake Rotoiti. He questioned whether RDC have the right to send 47 litres/second of dirty water into the Te Toroa Stream at a time when we are trying to clean up pollutants into the lakes. The discussion of the transfer station at Curtis Road had come up at the Lake Rotoiti Community Association AGM on the 6th January and they supported the resource application of RDC. However, subsequent

information had shown that there were environmental issues that needed to be looked at. The Chairman said that LWQS would be putting a submission in to EBOP and would send copies to John and Bob Armstrong.

- (3) *Peter Carr-Smith* – said that Transit and RDC should revisit the Gisborne Point site for the transfer station as there has already been a decision agreed on the entrance of the road to the forestry for the logging trucks and it would be an ideal place.
- (4) *Lindsay Brighouse* – showed concern that the Ohau Diversion wall did not appear to be as far down the Okere arm as the first maps showed. He suggested that if the water quality is found to be denigrated in any way then the length of the wall needs to be looked at again. David Hamilton said that he would follow this up. The ultimate design is to avoid back flow which is why the wall veered out at its tail end.
- (5) *Lindsay Brighouse* – brought up the discussion of EBOP moving its headquarters to Tauranga and the fact that LWQS supported it in their submission of May 2007. He recognised that since then there had been a shift in community support for the move in Rotorua and asked that LWQS relook at the issue.

After comments by a number of members including Steve Chadwick and Paul East, who also expressed his concern that there was no mayor and few RDC councillors at the meeting, although such a busy person as a Cabinet Minister had come, a motion was put forward.

It was moved that LWQS takes no formal view on the restructuring of EBOP and the move of the head office to Tauranga provided that this will be at no cost to the delivery of services particularly the restoration of the water quality of the Rotorua Lakes.
Accepted Paul East/Ian McLean

- (6) *John Cronin, Chairman of EBOP* – stated that EBOP have made the Rotorua Lakes their No. 1 priority. He believes that there is a lot of misinformation regarding the move to Tauranga. There would be a movement of people and building but no impact on the restoration programme was anticipated.

Speaker – Eddie Grogan, Group Water Management, Environment Bay of Plenty

Eddie gave an update on the programme of EBOP.

- Paul Dell was now working at Whangarei District Council and Eddie keeps in touch with him and his valuable background knowledge of our lakes
- A new team in Rotorua was working well and trying to keep close to community thinking. He had discovered a very passionate and involved community in Rotorua, unlike his experience in Auckland
- Millions of dollars was going into the restoration programme which he believed was robust, based on strong science fundamentals
- EBOP keep in close collaboration with what is happening in Lake Taupo and Environment Waikato
- We now need to stop searching and get on with it
- Significant effort is going into planning of the statutory and non statutory regulations. Plans can be very complicated but Eddie felt that there needed to be caution to keep them simple and flexible in land use change
- Rule 11 had been the envy of many other councils. While it had caused problems to farmers it led to innovation. Paul Dell must be congratulated for getting the rule through
- Ohau Diversion wall is ahead of time and budget
- Phoslock and other sediment locking trials are happening and need to be assessed before larger trials are undertaken
- The Land Use Futures Board is underway and looking at land use management practices
- Bench marking – Waikato costs \$12,000 per property
- The MOU with Government had meant that an application of \$35 million for funding by EBOP and RDC was possible. It was hoped for in the 2008 budget
- He would look in to TLI index updates for LWQS

Questions

Dave Donaldson – acknowledged and congratulated EBOP for their efforts and stressed that lake water and air quality were extremely important in any development of the Rotorua Lake front and the airport

Don Atkinson – asked if the Rotorua and Rotoiti Action Plan had been delayed. Eddie said that it was to be deliberated on by the Rotorua Lakes Strategy Committee in February and they would report back.

Nick Miller – commented that there seemed to be a lot of chainsawing and topdressing in the area. How much overview was taken of what is happening in the area. Eddie to follow up.

John La Roche – asked if EBOP monitor the storm water on the roads around the lakes. Eddie to follow up.

Steve Chadwick – asked about didymo in the area. EBOP work with Fish and Game

Liz Miller – asked if there was a regional stormwater plan. Eddie said this was in the Regional Land and Water Plan.

David Hamilton – thanked LWQS for sponsoring the New Zealand Freshwater Conference and giving a paper.

The Chairman thanked Eddie for his presentation and invited the members for morning tea.

Meeting Closed at 12.10 p.m.