

Minutes - Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee Tuesday, 17 March 2020

 <p>BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL TOI MOANA</p> <p>KAWERAU TREASURE OF THE LAND DISTRICT COUNCIL</p> <p>Opotiki District Council STRONG COMMUNITY STRONG FUTURE</p> <p>WHAKATANE District Council Kia Whakatane au i ahau</p>	Details of Meeting:	EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE ŌPŌTIKI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COMMENCING AT 1.35 PM
	Present:	Mayor Lyn Riesterer - Chair and Councillor Steve Nelson (Ōpōtiki District Council), Mayor Malcolm Campbell – Deputy Chair and Deputy Mayor Faylene Tunui (Kawerau District Council, Mayor Judy Turner and Deputy Mayor Andrew Iles (Whakatāne District Council, Councillors Bill Clark and Toi Kai Rakau Iti (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
	In Attendance:	<p><u>Ōpōtiki District Council</u> – Aileen Lawrie, CEO; Gerard McCormack, Planning and Regulatory Manager; Muriel Chamberlain, Corporate Services Manager; Garry Page, Reserves Manager; Councillors David Moore, Debi Hocart and Louis Rapihana</p> <p><u>Kawerau District Council</u> – Russell George, CEO</p> <p><u>Whakatāne District Council</u> – Steph O’Sullivan, CEO; Councillor Gavin Dennis</p> <p><u>Bay of Plenty Regional Council</u> – Fiona McTavish, CEO; Transport Planner; Julie Bevan, Manager Policy and Planning; Stephen Lamb, Manager Environmental Strategy; Councillor Stacey Rose</p>
	Visitors:	Ian Morton and Karl Gradon (General Managers, Toi-EDA), John Galbraith (Project Manager – Ōpōtiki Harbour Transformation Project), Simon Appleton (Eastern Bridge Ltd)
	Media:	Charlotte Jones (Local Democracy Reporter, Whakatāne Beacon)
Apologies:	Steph O’Sullivan (Whakatāne District Council) for lateness	

Ōpōtiki District Council Chief Executive Officer, Aileen Lawrie, took the Chair.

APOLOGY

Steph O’Sullivan for lateness.

RESOLVED:

THAT the apology of: Steph O’Sullivan for lateness be accepted.

Iles/Riesterer

CARRIED

PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

1 CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR 2020

Refer to page 8 of the agenda.

The recommendations that Mayor Lyn Riesterer be appointed Chairperson of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee and Mayor Malcolm Campbell be appointed Deputy Chairperson were put to the Committee and carried.

RESOLVED

That the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Appoints Mayor Lyn Riesterer as Chairperson.**
- 2. Appoints Mayor Malcolm Campbell as Deputy Chairperson.**

Iles/Clark

CARRIED

Mayor Lyn Riesterer took the Chair.

2 MINUTES – EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING 3 SEPTEMBER 2019

Refer to pages 9-14 of the agenda.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the minutes of the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee meeting held on 3 September 2019.**

Clark/Campbell

CARRIED

3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE – EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Refer to pages 15-20 of the agenda.

Ian Morton and Karl Gradon spoke to the report and gave two powerpoint presentations.

The first powerpoint presentation provided an overview of Toi-EDA, covering the following points:

- Introduction to the Toi-EDA Board members
- Why Toi-EDA exists
- Ensuring future generations have better opportunities and outcomes:
 - Toi-EDA to be positioned as a winning brand
 - Support sustainable economic development
 - Create thriving communities
- Toi-EDA's strategic framework
- Shared vision
- Challenges: capacity and capability; housing

Karl Gradon noted that the PGF funding which has come into the Eastern Bay of Plenty is going towards 68 projects in four clusters. Over 7,000 jobs will be created.

The second powerpoint presentation provided information to support the "Winning Brand" initiative:

- About C2 (a strategic communications consultancy)
- C2 Strategy and Design
- Online communications
- Perceptions from neighbours
- Problem definition
- Eastern Bay of Plenty – Strengths, challenges, wai and where, creative concepts, opportunities
- Developing our narrative
- Campaigns – creative; appealing to the heart and to the mind

Comments from around the table

- Iwi that have received their settlements are seeing young people come back to live in the Eastern Bay
- There was a ministerial directive to the three Mayors that they need to work together and it is important that this is done
- The Councils would be doing a disservice to Toi-EDA if there was not a long term strategy to meet the challenges, e.g., three waters, housing, transport

In response to a comment from Fiona McTavish that spatial planning will be the key instrument in driving economic development, Gerard McCormack advised that the Eastern Bay does have a Spatial

Plan – “Beyond Today”. He added that a lot of projects within that plan have been realised, so it may be timely to undertake a review.

Steph O’Sullivan noted that big decisions need to be made and iwi should be at the table, along with iwi balance sheets. Success would be having a Spatial Plan that is visible and guiding us as a strategy which feeds into all the elements which have been discussed today. It is about having a clear plan to talk to.

The Chairperson stated that the Regional Growth Leadership Group (RGLG) question has not been answered. She suggested this be raised at the RGLG meeting next Monday. It is about iwi being at the table. The Joint Committee is a Local Government committee which covers matters that the RGLG does not.

Karl Gradon said that a winning brand cannot be created without iwi at the table.

Councillor Iti thought there is a separation and he was not sure if the current model is the best option. He questioned why the forums cannot be combined into a bigger forum where everyone can discuss all the issues.

Mayor Turner acknowledged that each group has a slightly different focus. If the three forums were at the table, those who do not have an interest in Local Government processes would be attending. Mayor Turner suggested that the three committees meet on the same day so attendees do not have to sit through everything.

In conclusion, Ian Morton stated that Toi-EDA is seeking approval from the committee around scoping the ‘Winning Brand’ project. The next Joint Committee meeting will provide an opportunity for endorsement.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the report Economic Development Update – Eastern Bay of Plenty.**

Iti/Turner

CARRIED

Fiona McTavish and Councillor Rose entered the meeting at 1.38pm.

Steph O'Sullivan entered the meeting at 2.07pm.

Gerard McCormack (ODC Planning and Regulatory Group Manager) entered the meeting at 2.14pm.

Aileen Lawrie left the meeting at 2.16pm.

Garry Page (ODC Reserves Manager) entered the meeting at 2.18pm.

Karl Gradon and Ian Morton left the meeting at 2.45pm.

4 ŌPŌTIKI HARBOUR ROCK SUPPLY

Refer to pages 21-25 of the agenda.

John Galbraith spoke to the report with the aid of a powerpoint presentation which highlighted the following:

- The design
- The amount of rock required
- HEB Construction: Pitt Island Wharf reinforcement
- Awahou Quarry, Tāneatua
- Truck configurations and payloads
- Harbour construction initial work stages employment.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the report Ōpōtiki Harbour Rock Supply.**

HWTM/Iles

CARRIED

John Galbraith left the meeting at 3.05pm.

5 UPDATE ON MŌTŪ TRAILS GREAT RIDE PROPOSED WESTERN COASTAL EXTENSION FROM ŌPŌTIKI TO WHAKATANE

Refer to pages 26-28 of the agenda.

Garry Page (ODC Reserves Manager) spoke to the report, noting that extensive work has been done to bring the cost of the project down.

The Chairperson stated that MBIE want the detailed design with no guarantee the project will go ahead. \$60,000 is a lot of money for the Ōpōtiki District Council and there is concern around taking a

punt without a guaranteed go ahead and that there was a 'yes' from Whakatāne before there was a discussion.

Gerard McCormack pointed out that this is an extension of the Ōpōtiki trail and if not done, then Whakatāne would be a stand alone trail.

Steph O'Sullivan advised that the offer from MBIE of 75% rather than 50% was so that potential opportunity could be advanced after Whakaari. That new phase was inserted as tracking to make sure that the due diligence on the design work was done well to avoid a blow out of costs. This has not gone to Council and Whakatāne has not made a decision in front of Ōpōtiki. It is one element of a recovery package. There has been a lot of pressure from central Government on where they can place recovery money. Cycle trails are a good opportunity when trying to deploy people, especially out of the forestry industry. If it could be linked to the Covid-19 response then more labour etc., may be able to be secured.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the report Update on Mōtū Trails Great Ride Proposed Western Coastal Extension from Ōpōtiki to Whakatāne.**

Iles/Nelson

CARRIED

Garry Page left the meeting at 3.14pm.

6 JIANGXI UPDATE

Refer to pages 29-32 of the agenda.

Simon Appleton spoke to the report. Some of points highlighted were as follows:

Eastern Bay Relationship

Coronavirus has created some big problems with progressing the Eastern Bay relationship. During a recent fact finding visit to China, Simon Appleton said the message was that there is a desire for this regional relationship to work. It is their only such relationship and, if it works, will present the opportunity to showcase Chinese innovation.

There is a keenness to focus on commercial exchange, cultural exchange and science (particularly environmental sciences).

Scholarship and exchange programmes will be put on hold. It should also be noted that the uptake from the colleges was disappointing.

Solar Farm Project

Xinyu is a major battery producing area. There is a company wanting to establish a solar farm in New Zealand and would like to put \$1b towards the entire project. Te Kaha would be the flagship. Simon Appleton is keeping the Councils and Toi-EDA updated in regard to this. Things are not moving very quickly at the moment, but once coronavirus has moved on and travel can go ahead again a visit to the region will be planned.

Language Portal

The Language Portal is a large information resource, originally launched in April last year.

Delegation

It was hoped that there would be a delegation from Jiangxi and the three sister cities but Coronavirus has delayed that happening. When the delegation does visit, it would be lead by the Provincial Government with Local Government and business representatives. That would then be followed by a Governor's visit. A Governor is a high level official in China.

Business Opportunities

Simon Appleton advised that one of the biggest issues is that he does not have a definitive list of business opportunities in the Eastern Bay of Plenty. He hopes there is a possibility that Toi-EDA, or another organisation, can compile a list of these opportunities.

Jiangxi has been asking if there is an opportunity to bring in more cities – the Eastern Bay has three districts and they would like to bring in more partners.

In response to a query as to whether the Regional Council was "in or out" with regard to the Jiangxi relationship, Councillor Clark stated that this will be discussed and brought back to the Committee.

Mayor Campbell was of the opinion that it was important the Regional Council be involved as the Chinese are familiar with the Ports of Tauranga.

Mayor Campbell proposed, and it was agreed, that Simon Appleton write to our Chinese friends on behalf of the three Mayors, outlining the discussion today.

Clause 3 will be added to the recommendations to endorse Simon Appleton writing the letter as agreed.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the report Jiangxi Update.**
- 2. Invites Eastern Bridge back to provide another update in three months' time.**
- 3. Endorse a letter to be written by Simon Appleton on behalf of the three Eastern Bay of Plenty Mayors outlining the Committee's discussion today.**

Campbell/Iles

CARRIED

Muriel Chamberlain (ODC Corporate Services Manager) entered the meeting at 3.30pm.

7 RESPONSE TO COVID 19 CORONAVIRUS

Refer to pages 33-35 of the agenda.

Muriel Chamberlain (ODC Corporate Services Manager) spoke to the report. She advised that the doors have been closed at the Ōpōtiki Library and i-SITE. This is in response to staff raising concerns in relation to customers.

Steph O'Sullivan advised that a Covid-19 testing station has been opened.

The Committee was updated by Fiona McTavish and Russell George on the various measures being tested or put in place by their respective Councils.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the report Response to Covid 19 Coronavirus.**

HWTM/Turner

CARRIED

Muriel Chamberlain left the meeting at 3.50pm.

8 STRATEGIC TRANSPORT MATTERS FOR THE EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY

Refer to pages 36-42 of the agenda.

Fiona McTavish (BOPRC CEO) spoke to the report.

By November there will be a draft Regional Land Transport Plan out for approval. A key area to focus on is funding for cycling where NZTA have highlighted there is funding available and also for mode shift projects and for safety and resilience. For the Eastern Bay the public transport network review is going to commence.

The Chairperson asked that a Public Transport Committee update, and recommendations, come to the Joint Committee.

Mayor Campbell thanked Fiona McTavish, Bill Clark and Regional Council staff for the engagement with the Kawerau around their bus service needs.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the report Strategic Transport Matters for the Eastern Bay of Plenty.**

Clark/Riesterer

CARRIED

9 NATIONAL POLICY DIRECTION UPDATE

Refer to pages 43-47 of the agenda.

Julie Bevan (BOPRC Manager Policy and Planning) spoke to the report.

In response to a query, Julie Bevan stated that joint and combined submissions indicate the whole region is supportive or wants clarification or wants to change things. She added that when making submissions it is not only the large Councils and cities which are considered, thinking is extended over the smaller areas too.

Gerard McCormack noted that there are some barriers around joint submissions, e.g. meeting Council agenda deadlines and suggested a discussion needs to be had around this.

RESOLVED

THAT the Eastern Bay of Plenty Joint Committee:

- 1. Receives the report National Policy Direction Update.**

Turner/Iles

CARRIED

10 COLLABORATIVE REGIONAL HOUSING FOCUS

Discussion item

Steph O’Sullivan stated that following the Mayoral Forum, the CEOs are working to progress where they think the alignment lies and ensure linkage. It is important that this work is kept moving along. However, a more strategic response is needed across the region.

Mayor Campbell noted that Māori need to be involved with affordable, healthy homes and papakāinga.

Councillor Iti pointed out that this is about building sustainably for the future; i.e. how precincts are designed, not just a house.

The Chief Executives will collectively report back in due course when more work has been done.

John Galbraith and (Charlotte Jones left the meeting at 4.34pm.

THE MEETING FINISHED AT 4.38PM

Confirmed this	day of _____	2020.
Mayor Lyn Riesterer CHAIRPERSON		