
MINUTES
of the
NELSON-TASMAN REGIONAL LANDFILL BUSINESS UNIT
MEETING
held
9.30 am, Friday, 8 December 2017
at
Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

Present: Councillors S Walker (Chair) and I Barker, Nelson City Council
Councillors S G Bryant and C M Maling, Tasman District Council

In Attendance: General Manager, Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit (J Robinson), Engineering Services Manager (R Kirby), Management Accountant (M McGlinchey), Financial Accountant (B Grammer), Asset Engineer – Waste Management and Minimisation (D Stephenson) and Executive Assistant (R L Scherer), Tasman District Council

Group Manager, Corporate Services (N Harrison) and Senior Asset Engineer (J Thiart), Nelson City Council

1 OPENING, WELCOME

Cr Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the change in the order of the agenda to allow the Nelson City Councillors to attend a powhiri to welcome the new Chief Executive of Nelson City Council.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Cr Bryant/Cr Maling
RLBU17-12-1

That the minutes of the Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit meeting held on Friday, 15 September 2017, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 REPORTS

7.1 Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit General Manager's Report

Mr Robinson spoke to the report contained in the agenda and suggested that the committee discuss the financial statements as the first item of business.

Mr Robinson noted that staff expect the budget to be in surplus by the end of the financial year.

Mr Thiart confirmed that there had been a significant increase in tonnages in the following types of waste:

- HAIL material; and
- Skip waste and demolition waste mostly attributed to the growth in the building industry in the region.

In response to a question, Mr Thiart said that increased tonnages at the landfill do not necessarily affect the long term operation and life of the landfill.

Draft Business Plan

Mr Robinson spoke to the draft Business Plan contained in the agenda. He noted that both councils have asked for and support an increase in the disposal levy up to \$2.2 million, an increase of \$285,000 for each council.

Ms Harrison noted that the original \$1.915 million disposal levy was historical and that the solid waste account is solely funded by user charges. The required increase reflects inflation and also the costs of providing the Nelson City Council recycling service.

Mr Kirby noted that Tasman District Council required \$2.25 million originally (for 2017/2018) but altered its requirement to \$1.915 million and funded the difference through the general rate. Mr Kirby noted that the increase will need to be approved by Tasman District Council.

Mr Robinson explained that increasing the contribution to each council will result in an increase in landfill charges. The current "all rubbish" fee at \$137/tonne will need to be increased to meet the difference in funding. Staff suggest that the fee for 2018/2019 is \$141.00 per tonne

increasing to \$144 per tonne in 2019/2020.

Mr Robinson noted that the proposed changes to the schedule of landfill charges will be included in the respective council's Long Term Plans and that this will fulfil our consultation requirements.

Mr Robinson spoke to the financial result for the first four months of the regional landfill business unit's operations. He noted that the Deed of Agreement between the two councils requires any surplus or deficit to be returned to each council. However this means that the business unit has no operating buffer. Mr Robinson suggested that the committee consider including some of this year's predicted budget surplus as a buffer. This would require a modification to the Deed of Agreement to allow the business unit to retain some funding and also the agreement of both councils.

Mr Stephenson noted that he is presenting a report to the Tasman District Council on 14 December 2017. The report will ask the Council that the proposed landfill charges for solid waste activities and the regional landfill business unit for the next financial year be included in the Tasman District Council Long Term Plan consultation document.

Moved Cr Bryant/Cr Barker
RLBU17-12-2

Bryant/Barker

That the Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit

- 1. receives the Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit General Manager's Report; and**
- 2. approves the Draft Business Plan 2018/2019 as amended (to include the increase in the local disposal levy to the value of \$2.2 million for each Council and the increase in the landfill base gate charge of \$141 per tonne), which will be recommended to each council to be used in their Long Term Plan community consultation process.**

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10.25 am to reconvene at 2.30 pm, at the earliest, or after the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit Committee meeting is closed.

The meeting reconvened at 3.07 pm.

In Attendance: General Manager, Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit (J Robinson), Engineering Services Manager (R Kirby) and Executive Assistant (R L Scherer), Tasman District Council

Group Manager, Corporate Services (N Harrison) and Senior Asset Engineer (J Thiant), Nelson City Council

General Manager's Report

Mr Robinson spoke to the General Manager's report contained in the agenda. He highlighted a number of items.

Mr Thiart reported that the compacter used by Downer at York Valley had broken down and the contractor is required to find a replacement machine. He noted that the size of compacter required to cope with the increasing loads to landfill will be considered as part of the draft asset management plan which will be presented to the committee in March 2018.

In response to a question, Mr Thiart advised the committee that the dewatered sludge from the wastewater treatment plant at north Nelson is classified as HAIL material and will eventually be used for cover material which will save on air space. He does not envisage any odour issues with this material.

Mr Robinson reported that Stantec has been chosen to assist with the development of the first joint asset management plan which will cover planning for the next 30 years of the regional landfill business unit.

Mr Robinson noted that staff are in the process of resubmitting the replacement resource consent for the Eves Valley landfill. He advised the committee that if the original submitters to this consent application wish to be heard, there will be a commissioner hearing required to manage that process.

It was agreed that the regional landfill business unit will be a key stakeholder in the upcoming discussions around the council's Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and that there will be challenges in how we balance waste minimisation and sustaining our landfill business.

Operating Account

Following on from the morning discussions, the committee agreed to a resolution which will allow the Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit some surplus funding so that the Unit doesn't need to vary its charges on a year-by-year basis.

Moved Cr Maling/Cr Bryant RLBU17-12-3

The Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit recommends that both Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council amend the Nelson-Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit Deed of Agreement to allow for the retention of up to \$300,000 of surpluses to be held in the business unit's closed account for the purpose of managing year-by-year income fluctuations.

CARRIED

Business Plan

In response to a question, Mr Thiart clarified the difference between demolition waste and construction waste noting that both these items are tracked separately at the landfill.

In response to a question, Mr Robinson said that the Deed of Agreement is very clear that when the York Valley Landfill is full the business unit will move to develop stage 3 of the Eves Valley landfill.

In response to a question about the cost of testing material to show it conforms to landfill acceptance for cover material, Mr Thiart said that these costs will be reviewed as part of the development of the asset management plan.

Mr Thiart noted that Nelson City Council is offering an incentive of \$20 to ratepayers towards the cost of disposal of their electronic recycling items at the Nelson Environment Centre, eg batteries, computer components etc.

8 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

The meeting concluded at 4.05 pm.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: