



MINUTES

Waiora Co-Governance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 5 May 2026

Order Of Business

1	Karakia Timatanga	4
2	Apologies	4
3	Confirmation of Agenda	4
4	Disclosures of Interest	4
5	Minutes for Confirmation or Receipt	5
6	General Items	5
6.1	Implications of Resource Management System Reform on Freshwater Policy Review	5
6.2	Engagement update for the freshwater policy review	5
7	Karakia Whakamutunga	6

Unconfirmed

Waikato Regional Council
Waioira Co-Governance Committee Meeting
OPEN MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 5 May 2026, 11.00am

Location: Council Chambers
 Waikato Regional Council
 Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton

Members Present: Trustee Maria Nepia – Committee Co-Chair – Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board
 Cr Noel Smith – Committee Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
 Trustee Jackie Colliar – Waikato Raupatu River Trust
 Cr Robert Cookson – Waikato Regional Council
 Cr Mich'eal Downard - Waikato Regional Council (virtually via Teams)
 Trustee Nachele Griffiths – Raukawa Charitable Trust (Interim)
 Cr Jennifer Nickel – Waikato Regional Council
 Trustee Gannin Ormsby – Te Nehenehenui
 Cr Liz Stolwyk – Waikato Regional Council

In Attendance: Cr Keith Holmes – Waikato Regional Council
 Cr Warren Maher - Waikato Regional Council
 Cr Tipa Mahuta – Waikato Regional Council (virtually via Teams)
 Cr Angela Strange - Waikato Regional Council

Staff Present: Jo Ireland – Chief Executive, Te Arawa River Iwi Trust
 Tracey May – Director, Science, Policy and Information, Waikato Regional Council
 Tramaine Murray – Group Taiao Manager, Te Nehenehenui
 Jason Nepia – Economic Manager, Te Nehenehenui
 Peter Shepherd – Manager Natural Resources, Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board
 Billy Brough – Technical Advisor, River Iwi
 Jordan Metz – Democracy Advisor, Waikato Regional Council

The contents of these minutes meet all legal requirements and include a full set of decisions.

An audio-visual recording of the open session of the meeting is available on Waikato Regional Council's public website.

Recording	Document ID #	YouTube Link
Recording #1	35825296	https://youtu.be/9LQnAHui9cY
Recording #2	35825412	https://youtu.be/8rr41wvL0t0

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in recording 1, at start.

The Senior Policy Advisor – Water (Julian Svadlenak-Gardiner) opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in recording 1, at 58 seconds.

APOLOGY**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WCGC26/01**

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

That the apologies of Trustee Evelyn Forrest for absence be accepted.

CARRIED

11.03AM – THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

11.19AM – THE MEETING RECONVENED.

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in recording 2, at start.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WCGC26/02

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Trustee Jackie Colliar

- 1. That the agenda of the Waiora Co-Governance Committee Meeting of 5 May 2026, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting.**
- 2. That the order of items follows the order set out in the minutes.**
- 3. That the meeting may sit longer than two hours continuously and continue longer than six hours including adjournments.**

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in recording 2, at 19 seconds.

No interests were disclosed pertaining to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

5 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Nil

6 GENERAL ITEMS**6.1 IMPLICATIONS OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REFORM ON FRESHWATER POLICY REVIEW**

Item commenced in recording 2, at 36 minutes 51 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Science, Policy and Information (Tracey May) and the Technical Advisor for River Iwi (Billy Brough). Refer Document # 35820826 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WCGC26/03

Moved: Trustee Maria Nepia

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

1. That the report *Implications of Resource Management System Reform on Freshwater Policy Review* (Waiora Co-Governance Committee, 5 May 2026) be received.
2. That the Waiora Co-Governance Committee agree to temporarily pause the policy development and engagement workstreams of the Freshwater Policy Review.
3. That the Waiora Co-Governance Committee direct that remaining work on the science and economic workstreams of the Freshwater Policy Review continues to build the technical evidence base to inform policy development.
4. That the Waiora Co-Governance Committee direct Te Rōpū Hautū to report back to the Committee once the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill are enacted, including advice on implications for the Freshwater Policy Review and a revised workplan.

CARRIED**6.2 ENGAGEMENT UPDATE FOR THE FRESHWATER POLICY REVIEW**

Item commenced in recording 2, at 14 minutes.

Presented by the Director, Science, Policy and Information (Tracey May) and the Team Leader, Policy Implementation (Naomi Crawford). Refer Document # 35820826 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

Action: That staff update the Committee on the freshwater policy review, highlighting any alignment with the Long-Term Plan at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WCGC26/04

Moved: Trustee Gannin Ormsby

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the report *Engagement update for the freshwater policy review* (Waiora Co-Governance Committee, 5 May 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in recording 2, at 35 minutes 8 seconds.

The Senior Policy Advisor – Water (Julian Svadlenak-Gardiner) closed the meeting with a Karakia.

11.56am – The meeting closed.

Unconfirmed