



Report 03.194

13 March 2003

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Passenger Transport Committee held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Thursday, 13 March 2003 at 9.30am

Present

Councillors Turver (Chairperson), Aitken, Barr, Buchanan, Evans, Kirton, Laidlaw, McDavitt, Shields, Thomas and Yardley

Officers Present

Messrs Cross, Darroch, Grace, Ruth Henderson Hewitt, Hohnen-Campbell, Carolyn Lefebvre, Kathy Newton, Karen Richardson, Waddington and Dr Watson

New Staff

Dr Watson introduced the following staff who had recently been appointed in the Transport Division:

- Joe Hewitt, Manager Access Planning
- Carolyn Lefebvre, Manager Procurement
- Ruth Henderson, Contract and Quality Manager
- Kathy Newton, Accountant who joins the Transport Division from the Finance Team

Dr Watson also noted there had been a few goodbyes and further appointments still to be made.

Public Business

Procedural Items

PT 83 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr McDavitt)

That the apology from Councillor Foster be confirmed.

PT 84 **Public Participation**

Mr B Efford

Mr Efford asked whether the Regional Council would consider a performance guarantee for trolley bus infrastructure similar to the agreement the Council has with Tranz Rail Ltd for Tranz Rail's infrastructure maintenance. Mr Efford said Wellington Cable Car Ltd owns the trolley bus overheads and defines the maintenance standards. Low standards could result in service disruption.

Dr Watson said the trolley bus contract came up for renewal in February 2004 and the future of trolley buses will be debated later in the year.

PT 85 **Confirmation of Minutes**

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Evans)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2002, Report 02.773, be confirmed.

PT 86 **Mana Coach Services Presentation by Kerry Waddell and Joanne Copeland, Finance Director**

Kerry Waddell gave a presentation on Mana Coach Services including the business ethos, the current environment, critical success factors, business risks, local issues and the future. Ms Waddell concluded that Mana Coach Services were committed to reliable, efficient and continuing to improve public passenger transport services in the western corridor of the region with a commitment to excellence.

Members responded to the presentation with spontaneous applause.

Following questions Councillor Turver thanked Kerry Waddell for an outstanding presentation. Councillor Turver then invited Ms Waddell and Ms Copeland to join members for morning tea.

Morning tea: 10.45am

Resumed: 11.00am

Councillor Kirton left at 11.00am.

Matter for Decision

PT 87 **Wellington Quality Partnership Agreement**

Report 03.76

File: T/10/1/1

Hutt Public Passenger Transport Services

Dr Watson said he would investigate whether a quality partnership agreement was possible for public passenger transport services in the Hutt Valley.

Fuel Emissions

Members asked when diesel bus emissions will improve and in particular when will the oil industry be able to deliver sulphur free fuel across the country.

Dr Watson said he would circulate the papers when the Regional Council last considered the quality and volume of fuel emissions on the regional roading network.

Needs of People with a Disability

Councillor Turver agreed to a request by Councillor Aitken to include in the quality partnership agreement support for the special needs of people with a disability.

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Cr Barr)

That the Wellington City Passenger Services Quality Partnership Agreement 2003-2007 be adopted.

Matters for Information

PT 87 **Hutt Valley Bus Service Review**

Report 03.120

File: T/10/1/37

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Yardley)

That the progress on implementation of the Hutt Valley bus service review be noted.

PT 89 **Rail Safety Issues**

Report 03.03

File: T/11/2/1

Mr Hayward, Tranz Rail Ltd, was in attendance and answered questions from Councillors.

Long Term Contract

Dr Watson said the Regional Council had placed a new Competitive Pricing tender before Transfund New Zealand which had yet to be approved. The proposed tender included the calling of international tenders and a process which could take up to six months.

Dr Watson said the Chairman of Transfund New Zealand will be visiting Council on 1 April 2003 when it was hoped a new competitive pricing process will be discussed. The Regional Council will be unable to start a long term contract process until the new CPP is in place.

Given the strong connection between the value of assets and the sale price Dr Watson said it would be irresponsible for the Regional Council to make any capital payments to Tranz Metro Ltd for existing infrastructure when the company had expressed a public intention to sell

Councillor Turver thanked Mr Hayward for his attendance and said that direct dialogue was very helpful.

Resolved (Cr Buchanan/Cr Shields)

That the report be received.

PT 90 **Research Based Public Transport Marketing**

Report 03.117

File: T/10/5/1

Resolved (Cr Buchanan/Cr McDavitt)

That the report be received.

PT 91 **Other Matters of Interest – March 2003**

Report 03.74

File: E/6/19/3

Strategic Assessment

It was agreed there was a need to develop a relationship with Health Boards, School Authorities and other large organisations with special demands on public passenger transport services.

Prototype Trolley Bus

Dr Watson said all Councillors will be invited to view the rebuilt prototype trolley bus at noon on Thursday 20 March outside the Regional Council Centre. Mr Brian Souter, Chairman of Stagecoach International, will be on hand to welcome Councillors aboard.

Financial Performance

Dr Watson noted there were omissions in the Finance Report on the order paper which is an extract from the report to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee budget meeting on 6 March 2003.

Security Issues at Commuter Carparks

Officers were requested to prepare a report for the next meeting of the Passenger Transport Committee on security at commuter carparks

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Thomas)

That the report be received and the extensive information be noted.

Other Matters

PT 92 Questions

There were no questions.

PT 93 General

There were no matters of general business.

The meeting closed at 11.27am.

Cr C TURVER
Chairperson