



Report 04.279
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Committee Wairarapa Flood Damage Sub-Committee
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February 2004 Flood Damage – Wairarapa

1. Purpose

To approve the February 2004 Wairarapa flood damage repair work schedules following the completion of all the scheme advisory committee meetings.

2. Background

Floods in February 2004 caused considerable damage in the Wairarapa. The Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee at its 16 March 2004 meeting resolved to recommend “*That a Wairarapa Flood Damage Sub-Committee of Cr Buchanan, Cr Long, and Mr Alex Benton be established to approve the final works programme schedules for flood damage repairs following completion of the appropriate river scheme advisory committee meetings*”.

At the same time the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee resolved to recommend that flood damage repairs expenditure of \$1,128,000 be approved. However, meetings had not been held with the scheme advisory committees to consider the proposals and determine how the schemes would pay for their share of the damage.

All scheme advisory committees have now met and agreed with the attached flood damage schedules.

3. Advisory Committee Meetings

The following is a summary of the respective advisory committees decisions:

3.1 Waiohine-Mangatarere River Scheme

The advisory committee agreed:

“That the flood damage repair programme be approved at a cost of \$80,000.

3.2 Waingawa River Scheme

The advisory committee agreed:

“That the flood damage expenditure, as set out in the schedule, be approved with a net increase in the annual revised works programme of \$27,000”.

In approving the scheme’s annual report and financial statement, the advisory committee accepted that the scheme would go into deficit by the order of \$8,383.

The advisory committee approved a rate increase of 3.9% from the current level for the 2004/05 year. This increase, plus modifications to the annual works programme to increase the works completed by gravel extractors, will significantly reduce the expected deficit by the end of 2004/05.

3.3 Waipoua River Scheme

The advisory committee agreed:

“(1) That the flood damage expenditure, as set out in the flood damage schedule, be approved with a net increase in the annual revised works programme of \$47,000.

(2) That the works programme for the rural part of the scheme for 2004/05 be approved at an estimated cost of \$54,000.

(3) That the 2004/05 scheme rates remain at the current level”.

3.4 Upper Ruamahanga - Mt Bruce River Scheme

The advisory committee agreed:

“That the flood damage expenditure, as set out in the schedule, be approved with a net increase in the annual revised works programme of \$53,000”.

The effect of this increased programme is that the scheme will be in deficit by \$11,261 at the end of this financial year.

The advisory committee approved a 3.9% increase at the same meeting. This will reduce the deficit and this will be paid off within 3 years.

3.5 Upper Ruamahanga -Te Ore Ore River Scheme

The advisory committee agreed:

“That the flood damage expenditure, as set out in the schedule, be approved with a net increase in the annual revised works programme of \$48,000”.

3.6 Upper Ruamahanga – Gladstone River Scheme

The advisory committee agreed:

“That the flood damage schedule be adopted at an estimated cost of \$35,000.

3.7 Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme

The advisory committee agreed:

“That the flood damage schedule of \$770,000 be adopted”.

The schedule of recommended repair work for this scheme as presented to the advisory committee was \$158,000 greater than originally approved by the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee and the Council. The flood damage reserve for this scheme is extremely healthy being the order of \$1.4m.

4. Financial Situation

Based on the attached schedules, the forecast situations for the scheme reserve balances at 30 June 2004 are as follows assuming all work is completed by 30 June. In reality, only approximately 60% of the repair work will be completed by 30 June.

Lower Wairarapa Valley	1,438,860
Waiohine	61,811
Waipoua	(45,409)
Waingawa	27,154
Mt Bruce	(10,387)
Te Ore Ore	496
Gladstone	(6072)

The forecast position for the Council's Flood Contingency Fund as at 30 June 2004 is as follows, again assuming all work is completed by 30 June.

Balance at 1 July 2003	426,206
2003/04 contribution	200,000
Withdrawal for Wairarapa flood damage October 2003	(56,000)
Withdrawal for Western flood damage February 2004	(135,250)
Withdrawal for Wairarapa flood damage February 2004	<u>(524,000)</u>
Forecast total	(89,044)

5. Other Matters

Despite the size of the February 2004 flood events, there has been no money drawn from the Council's major flood damage protection recovery event for events with return periods over 25 years.

A number of schemes had flood events greater than 25 years but apart from the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme, there is currently very limited funds within this major flood damage fund. Hence, the fund appears to be of little practical use at this stage particularly from the scheme ratepayers point of view. This fund needs a number of years to build up to a reasonable amount.

6. Recommendation

That the Sub-Committee approve the flood damage repair works in the Wairarapa from the February 2004 events, as per the attached schedules, noting that total expenditure is estimated at \$1,286,000 requiring a withdrawal of \$578,500 from the Council's Flood Contingency Fund.

Report prepared by:



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