

Minutes of Te Runanga O NgaiTakoto Board of Trustees Meeting Pioke House, Kaitaia, Saturday 24th May 2014, 2pm

Attendees:

Wallace Rivers (Chairman), Trudy Brown-Patuwairua, Mangu Awarau, Dale Mehana, Jasmine Marino, Robert Tamati (Via teleconference)

Rangitane Marsden (CEO), Kaio Hooper, Lau'rell Pratt, Fran Hokianga

Mihi: Wallace Rivers

Karakia: Mangu Awarau

Meeting commenced: 2:25pm

Receive previous minutes from the 15th March 2014.

Moved: Trudy Brown-Awarau

Seconded: Dale Mehana

1.1 On Account Payment Recommendation

The paper 1.1 On Account Payment Recommendation has been presented to the Board. In brief this is about the establishment of a financial advisory party to make independent recommendations to the Board about the best and appropriate immediate, interim investment for our settlement funds whilst they are suiting in the bank and we are developing the PSGE.

We are looking at approximately 4 people (membership suggested in paper), with two of our own in that space, to discuss, develop and recommend investment for the interim 3-year period. The paper outlines the approach and it's about recognising that we need a framework around investment and banking portfolio and these skills are best sorted, independent of the Board.

There will be meeting costs, but it is anticipated they will only need 1-2 meetings to discuss options, it's about bringing in the right technical skills to ensure our settlement funds are working for the tribe, but are secure over this period. It also considers the operational costs of the Runanga and any interim period income (such as Interest, and Kauri log business).

Robert – recommended that the CEO be also put forward in that space as the Runanga conduit between the Boards needs and the work of the group.

Trudy – confirmed as a Board we will make final decision on the working groups recommendation and report back to beneficiaries, but it keeps the options independent of the Board and brings in the right financial skills.

The meeting resolves:

To Receive the paper 1.1 'On Account Payment Recommendation.'

And, Accept the recommendation by the CEO in the report to establish a financial advisory working party to recommend investment framework and options to the Te Runanga O NgaiTakoto Board of Trustees for the interim investment of settlement funds.

Move: Robert Tamati

Seconded: Trudy Brown

1.2 Aupouri Forestry CFL

Presentation included in board papers Item 1.2 from Pryor and Associates Ltd, which was presented to the Te Hiku Iwi Leadership (21 March 2014) regarding the joint responsibilities of the return of the Aupouri Crown Forestry Licenses and the joint management of such.

There are four Iwi (NgaiTakoto, Te Rarawa, Ngati Kuri, Te Aupouri) in this space and as co-owners of the forest we need to understand that getting back Forest land comes with some responsibilities and commitments, such as public access, replanting, liabilities, lease terms etc. The presentation from Pryor and Associates is an overview of those responsibilities.

We have established a Te Hiku Forestry Joint Management Group Hemi Toia (Te Rarawa), Mike Stevens (Te Aupōuri) Harry Burkhart (Ngati Kuri) who will be working through strategy, structure, land management etc. CEO, Rangitane Marsden is on this Management Group.

While Te Rarawa and Te Aupouri are keen to engage in advice, Rangitane recommends we slow down the process and has suggested that we work through it ourselves first; we need to understand the options first. The Te Hiku Forestry Joint Management Group is being established (with formal Deed etc) and needs to be underway before we commit to external consulting advice (as the presentation is pitching for work, in the vicinity of 100K), the Forestry Management Group can then be tasked with further recommendations to Board.

Rangitane also notes: the return of the forest also raises the outstanding issues with Te Rawara on our whenua in that space and it is becoming critical that we resolve that issue prior to any formal sign off.

The meeting resolves:

To Receive the paper 1.2 'Joint Management Group Presentation, Pryor and Associates, 21 March 2014' and await recommendations from the Te Hiku Forestry Joint Management Group and CEO in due course.

2.1 PSGE Development/Structure

Defer this item to 4:00pm when Craig wells has been invited to present

2.2 Trust registrations – GST, Maori Authority

Defer this item to 4:00pm when Craig wells has been invited to present

2.3 Forms for signature

Defer this item to 4:00pm when Craig wells has been invited to present

3.1 Vision, Purpose and Values summary

Paper 3.1 presented a summary document of our Vision, Purpose and Values wananga in the Hokianga on 3-4 May 2014.

The weekend provided a good framework to move forward as an organization. We are planning a series of youth hui in July (Whangarei and Auckland, and possibly Australia at a later date), which is where we can start to socialize this direction with our rangitahi and incorporate their different world view into the vision, building on the foundation here, and actualizing it through our project work streams.

The Board agreed the paper was a good summary of the discussion and a confident it is right for where we are going (with respect to where we've come from). Some discussion around the modern interpretation of the Values, but it was confirmed the framework provides for the 'individual to interrupt the meaning in the message for themselves' and it is a prompt to start the thought and korero.

The meeting resolves:

To Accept the paper 3.1 as an accurate summary of our Vision, Purpose and Values for Te Runanga O NgaiTakoto,

and that, the CEO is to present a communication strategy at our next Board meeting to distribute, socialise and communicate this Vision to beneficiaries.

And that, a Youth hui be planned for July as a base of this communication/engagement strategy and a step towards realising the vision with our future generation.

4.1 Update- Financial Report

Financial Report for period end April 2014 from Missy Marsden tabled at the meeting. Discussion around aligning our financial strategy i.e.: quarterly budgets with quarterly income (what is earned out of interest and funds). It aligns investment with operations.

It is noted that this financial year there is a larger than expected normal governance cost as we set up legal structures and trusts, as Te Runanga O NgaiTakoto, but also as our part share in the Te Hiku collective. These are largely one off legal and financial costs (i.e.: Sweetwater JV, PSGE structure, Te Hiku Forestry etc).

We are looking to up skill staff so we are developing financial capability and capacity in house and Sarah Kessell is to come and upgrade our systems and payroll (MYOB).

The meeting resolves:

To reject quarterly reporting, but accept a move from monthly to bi-monthly financial reporting in line with bi-monthly Board meetings.

And, that The CEO is requested to present revised Budget for next 12 months to the Board at next meeting.

4.2 Technology Upgrade and Vehicles

Verbal update from CEO - New computers and server are up and running in the office. Vehicles are to be sign written. I-pads to be distributed to Board members at next meeting and will include basic training.

This item is for information only

5.1 Website, Sponsorship Criteria/Application

Draft sponsorship criteria included in Board papers 5.1. The individual needs to be registered with the Runanga to qualify and must whakapapa back to NgaiTakoto.

The meeting resolves:

To Review the Scholarship Criteria/Application form and comment/ approve at next Board meeting (for distribution to Beneficiaries and on our website)

6.1 Claims Update/Business Plan roadshows (Whangarei, Auckland, Australia)

Business Plan and Management Report presented and discussed at Whangarei and Auckland roadshow. Roadshows were well received with beneficiaries appreciating the opportunity to get involved and ask questions. The Australian Trust is very proactive and is looking forward. They have held elections and appointed their Trustees with representation from right across Australia – Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide. Its great to see such a positive response. One idea they are developing is a ‘soft landing’ approach for our people who arrive over there, and in return we will develop a Hikoi back home programme to welcome and engage them when our Australian members return home.

This item is for information only

6.2 Te Paa A Parore Marae

Letter received and circulated to the Board for consideration. CEO to respond to all Marae in writing; all the points raised have been outlined in the business plan and or discussed before through the roadshows and the information is already out there. Formal communication strategy from the Runanga is direct to beneficiaries, Marae are part of that process, but not the point of accountability and information dissemination anymore.

The meeting resolves:

That the CEO will reply to all Marae in writing and outline communication strategy

7.1 Environmental update (Kaio Hooper)

Apologies from Kaio accepted for not been at the Vision and Purpose Wananga.

Kaio gave an update of his scope of work over the last four months. In particular a photo overview of his work with DOC, Bushlands Trust, Schools and other partners to bring together the World Wetlands Day Event at Lake Ngatu. Excellent Day with some great learnings and participation around ecosystem health and wellbeing and declining water levels. Thanks Mangu for helping. The lake needs some work and in collaboration with adjoining local landowners we need to develop a strategy to restore its waimauri back into that space.

Secondly Kaio talked about his important work around Bore Monitoring on Sweetwater and how this baseline monitoring is crucial to ongoing korero around the health of whenua. Waste, outflows, water quality, levels, and nutrient samples are all indicators we need to measure and monitor. It is important to keep our own measures and then work in tandem with NRC and other parties to get accurate picture of health and develop as strategy moving forward.

The whale stranding is a good reminder to build up our Environmental action crew, those who Kaio has on a contact list/Facebook that he can put out a call to help. Whales are our responsibility and we need a strategy/policy or procedure that we can follow in future.

Kaio is still planning the Hikoi for this summer.

This item is for information only

Deferred Items 2.1 PSGE Development/Structure, 2.2 Trust registrations – GST, Maori Authority, 2.3 Forms for signature discussed with the arrival of Craig Wells

Welcome to Mr Craig Wells, Partner from Sumpter Baughen. Invited to discuss the options around the Te Runanga O NgaiTakoto PSGE and development of the interim structure. This is a process we started back last year, but needs to be refined and developed to progress through the interim period. Beneficiaries need to accept and ratify the resulting structure so we need to enable the time to develop it and communicate it back out over the next period.

Craig took us through a presentation looking at key aspects of the a) Structure of the PSGE – Charitable Status (0%) vs Maori Authority (at 17% tax); b) Representation and c) the Commercial structure. The legal obligation of the PSGE is to beneficiaries not Marae, and that needs to be reflected in the structure.

It will be an ongoing discussion but essentially the recommendation of Craig, and the Board was to pursue Maori Authority status, which provides more flexibility than a charitable entity, and we can still have a charitable entity within the structure. It was recommended that the governance of the PSGE be the same on the Charitable entity, to keep leadership and representation consistent across those two spaces and align objectives; but we would also have a Commercial Entity as part of the structure that would bring in external skills and capabilities, but be accountable to and report to the Board.

(Diagrams attached and detailed Board paper circulated herewith the minutes.)

The meeting resolves:

That the CEO continue to develop the structure as outlined by Mr Craig Wells and report development to the next Board meeting.

And that, the Paper prepared by Sumpter Baughen be distributed to Board Members for reading and further discussion at next Board meeting.

8.1 Sweetwater Farm update

Board papers outlined the overall strategy and vision (1 pager) agreed to by the Sweetwater Farm working party.

Progress is continuing with the Joint venture, with agreement coming together with Landcorp and the Terms of the Partnership between Te Rarawa and NgaiTakoto to be drafted and signed at next meeting in July. Some considerations coming up around purchase of new land and how/when to bring that into the Sweetwater Farm platform and questions around ownership of that land – whether it be by individual Iwi or together through the JV. **CEO concerned about protecting NgaiTakoto interests in this space and in particular clarification of NgaiTakoto whenua in regards to Te Make.**

This item is for information only

8.2 Te Hiku O Te Ika Iwi Leaders Forum Update

CEO commented on personal notes from the last Te Hiku Iwi leaders meeting overviewing Te Hiku Iwi current positions i.e.: 'where they think things are at.' These positions highlighted the space the other Iwi are in and the CEO is somewhat despondent about the ability/willingness of the other Iwi to step up to the current opportunities and or their preparedness for the moving forward together in the current space. He suggested that their positions are somewhat of a risk to NgaiTakoto and that we may need to start to develop a few small things to do on our own, despite our preference to work collectively. "It is easier for us to manage poverty, than it is for us to manage wealth" was their general consensus. They are still in welfare mode, and it's not healthy for Te Hiku, and especially not for NgaiTakoto as we are leading the charge to some extent about redefining on value.

The Board discussed and supported this approach and the need for NgaiTakoto to move forward in its own direction if the Te Hiku collective was not progressing. CEO to continue to develop the Te Hiku economic roadmap through the Accord, but also consider other individual activities/initiatives.

This item is for information only

8.3 Kauri Logging Update

CEO refers to paper 8.3 in Board agenda and confirms that this contract expires in August and we are not looking to renew it at this stage.

This item is for information only

8.4 Mekerene Resin & Wax Ltd

CEO talked to his paper 8.4 and will pursue relationship and discussions regarding the purchase of this property. In summary NgaiTakoto have \$1.5M in the settlement process, under the 'cultural redress' fund and set aside for this property. CEO is just confirming which party to deal with as Westpac are in both spaces but has been clear that no one can own this property except NgaiTakoto and we have made formal offers to discuss this matter directly with the bank, or the alternative, is a position of public - media protest, which no one wants.

This item is for information only

8.5 Proposed Historical Places Registration – Te Take

The Board received this information and agreed it was a good opportunity as a site of cultural significance.

9.0 General Business

9.1 Schedule of Meetings

Schedule of meetings to be circulated for the next meeting. Suggest meeting every two months, third Saturday of the month, starting at 11am. Next meeting scheduled for Saturday July 26th, 11am.

9.2 Marae correspondence – CEO confirmed he would respond to this personally and to all Marae

9.3 Legislation – first reading is scheduled for June possibly.

9.4 Eel Farming - Mangu tabled a letter from Tui Shortland regarding eel farming/ breeding in captivity. This was to be considered and replied to.

9.5 Dial a Kaumatua – Mangu expressed concern about the number of activities and events that were all happening but with little affect; and that although the Crown Social Accord looks good while we all sit around table, on the ground it is a mess. ‘We need to start our own play for NgaiTakoto’

9.6 Te Kuiti - CEO, Mangu and Wallace to go to Te Kuiti to attend National Iwi Leaders Forum hui-a-Marama at the end of the month

9.7 Northland College - Dale and Kaio to attend Northland College Farming field ay this Friday

9.8 Fundraiser – Trudy raised that there is a fundraiser at Te Rangi Aniwaniwa 11-13th June, so could be an opportunity for NgaiTakoto to sell some promotional gear and come along to support.

Meeting closed at 6:00pm