



MINUTES

**Ordinary Council meeting
Thursday, 2 April 2026**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD AT THE LOCATION: THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE WESTERN BOP COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, ADDRESS: BARKES CORNER, 1484 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA
ON THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2026 AT 9.35 AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Rod Taylor, Cr Hēmi Rolleston

IN ATTENDANCE: Marty Grenfell (Chief Executive), Christine Jones (General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth), Craig Rice (Chief Operating & Financial Officer) Reneke van Soest (General Manager: Operations & Infrastructure), Wally Potts (Head of City Waters), Charles Lane (Team Leader: Commercial Legal), Kathryn Sharplin, (Head of Finance) Cathy Davison (Waters Organisation Establishment Lead), Clare Sullivan (Senior Governance Advisor), Anahera Dinsdale (Governance Advisor),

ALSO PRESENT: Western Bay of Plenty Mayor, Councillors and staff

Mr Chris Nepia opened with a karakia and a mihi whakatau.

Timestamps are included beside each of the items and relate to the recording of the meeting held on 2 April 2026 on the [Council's Youtube Channel 2 April 2026](#)

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Cr Rolleston opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Nil

At 9.44am the meeting adjourned.

Timestamp 14 minutes

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nessie Kuka - Matakana Island

- Did not support Thames Coromandel District Council joining the Tauranga City Council/Western Bay of Plenty District Council Water Services organisation if formed.

Representatives from the Tangata Whenua Working Group

- Shad Rolleston, Kylie Smallman, Roanna Bennett, and Hakopa Tapiata addressed the Councils on behalf of the wider Working Group acknowledging the contributions of all its members.
- They highlighted the alignment of outcomes in establishing the waters organisation, emphasising its significance for Māori communities and the Taiao (environment). Water

was described as a taonga, valued holistically rather than in separated or compartmentalised parts.

- They supported a broader view of democracy – one that is more inclusive and diverse – emphasising the importance of wider participation as a foundation for long-term sustainability.

Thames Coromandel District Council

- The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive thanked the councils for the opportunity to address the meeting and acknowledged the comments of the other speakers.
- They acknowledged the work completed to date and noted that they were spectators in the process but would appreciate the opportunity to work with the two councils. They added that joining the water organisation (if formed) would make a material difference to their ratepayers.

At 12.59pm the meeting resumed.

At 12.59pm the meeting adjourned.

At 1.32pm the meeting resumed.

4 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5 BUSINESS

Timestamp: 3 hours and 11 minutes

5.1 Local Water Done Well - Progressing the delivery of water services

Staff Christine Jones , General Manager Strategies, Partnerships & Growth
Kathryn Sharplin, Head of Finance

MOTION

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale

Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Local Water Done Well - Progressing the delivery of water services".
- (b) Confirms that a robust due diligence process has been completed and notes that several matters identified through this process (including key terms) require further development. These matters will be progressed through good-faith partnership discussions as part of establishing and transitioning to a multi-Council Water Organisation and agrees these will be included in a forward work programme.
- (c) Approves the establishment of multi-council Water Organisation with Western Bay of Plenty District Council, with a proposed 'go-live' date of 1 July 2027.
- (d) Notes that Council remains open to working with other councils that may wish to consider joining the multi-council Water Organisation in the future, subject to appropriate due diligence and Council approval .

AN AMENDMENT WAS PROPOSED

Moved: Cr Hautapu Baker
Seconded: Cr Glen Crowther

That the Council:

Amend recommendation (d) by adding the following words after the words "Council approval" :
, including the need to appropriately recognise cross-boundary iwi relationships.

For: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach,
Cr Steve Morris, Cr Hēmi Rolleston, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor
Against: Mayor Mahé Drysdale and Cr Marten Rozeboom

CARRIED 8/2

A FURTHER AMENDMENT WAS PROPOSED

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther
Seconded: Cr Rick Curach

That the Council:

Amend recommendation (c) by changing the 'go live' date to 1 July 2028.

For: Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach and Cr Hēmi Rolleston,
Against: Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Kevin Schuler
Cr Marten Rozeboom and Cr Rod Taylor

LOST 4/6

The substantive motion was then put to the meeting.

RESOLUTION CO/26/5/1

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale
Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Local Water Done Well - Progressing the delivery of water services".
- (b) Confirms that a robust due diligence process has been completed and notes that several matters identified through this process (including key terms) require further development. These matters will be progressed through good-faith partnership discussions as part of establishing and transitioning to a multi-Council Water Organisation and agrees these will be included in a forward work programme.
- (c) Approves the establishment of multi-council Water Organisation with Western Bay of Plenty District Council, with a proposed 'go-live' date of 1 July 2027.
- (d) Notes that Council remains open to working with other councils that may wish to consider joining the multi-council Water Organisation in the future, subject to appropriate due diligence and Council approval, including the need to appropriately recognise cross-boundary iwi relationships.

For: Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, , Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Hēmi Rolleston, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor

Against: Cr Glen Crowther

CARRIED 9/1

5 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Resolution to exclude the public at 3.13pm

RESOLUTION CO/26/5/2

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting with the exception of Western Bay of Plenty Elected Members, relevant staff and Hakopa Tapiata.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
5.1 - Local Water Done Well - Appointment of an Establishment Chief Executive	<p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p> <p>s7(2)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p>	s48(1)(a) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

CARRIED

Resumption of meeting in open at 3:24pm.

At 3.24pm the meeting adjourned.

At 3.45pm the meeting resumed in open.

6 CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Hēmi Rolleston closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 3.47pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 21 April 2026.