

Our ref: SBC-07-06-01

## NORTHLAND CONSERVATION BOARD

**Minutes of a meeting of the Northland Conservation Board  
Held at the Department of Conservation Kaitaia Area Office, Kaitaia on  
Friday, 20 February 2009  
commencing at 9 a.m**

**Present :**

<b>Chairperson</b>	Kevin Evans
<b>Board Members</b>	Ian Faulkner Julie Gordon John Kenderdine Robin Lieffering David Monro Ken Ross Richard Shepherd
<b>Department of Conservation</b>	Hilary Aikman, Conservation Support Manager & Acting Area Manager, Kaitaia Jeannie Hogarth, Board Support Officer
<b>In Attendance :</b>	Yvonne Sharp, NZ Conservation Authority Piet Nieuwland, CRO, Management Planning Lon Peters, Programme Manager, Iwi Liaison, Kaitaia Area [part]
<b>Public Forum</b>	Victor Holloway, representing Ngati Kahu Rongo Bentson, representing Te Runanga o Te Rarawa Mai Aperahama, representing Muriwhenua Inc.

**Apologies :**

	Hon Tim Groser, Minister of Conservation
	Judi Gilbert, Board Member
	Jeroen Jongejans, Board Member
	Helene Leaf, Board Member
	Waitai Petera, Board Member
	Ken Paterson, General Manager, Northland Regional Council
	Suzi Phillips, Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society, Warkworth
	Bev Woods, Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society, Whangarei

## Welcome & Introduction

Kevin Evans welcomed everyone to the meeting with a special welcome to Yvonne Sharp, New Zealand Conservation Board Member and Northland representative, thanking her for taking the time to attend the meeting and the site inspection the previous day. He invited those present to open the meeting with a karakia or similar introduction.

By way of an opening, John Kenderdine welcomed everyone to the meeting asking that the work being undertaken on behalf of the community be carried out with good grace and satisfaction and coming out feeling we have accomplished something.

## Apologies

The Board Support Officer tabled the Apologies received and read two Emails for the Board's information :

- **Hon Tim Groser, Minister of Conservation**

To: Kevin Evans, Chairperson, Northland Conservation Board [via E-mail]

“The Hon Tim Groser has asked me to thank you for your kind invitation to attend the meeting of the Northland Conservation Board this week. Unfortunately he is unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments overseas – please pass on his apologies.

“The Minister did have an opportunity to visit Te Rerenga Wairua/Cape Reinga earlier this year and he was most impressed with the work which has been completed.

“The Minister hopes to have an opportunity to meet with you and other Conservation Chairpersons in the future.

“Yours sincerely

Gavin Rodley  
Private Secretary for Conservation”

- **Bev Woods, Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society [via E-mail to Board Support Officer]**

“Thank you for sending the Agenda for the next NCB meeting in Kaitaia. The F&B Committee has decided in cause of the environment we will use the public notice in the paper to decide if we want to go. So, there is no need to send the Agenda out now. For myself I will be moving in other environmental directions and do not envisage further attendance an an NCB meeting. I would like to thank you for all the times you gave attention to photocopying and emailing to further the causes I believe in. All the best, Bev Woods.”

Bev Woods has attended a number of Northland Conservation Board meetings over the years representing the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and raising issues of concern to her personally. Her presence and contribution at meetings will be missed.

Moved Robin Lieffering, seconded Ian Faulkner

**THAT the apologies be accepted.**

**CARRIED**

## 1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved Robin Lieffering, seconded Julie Gordon

**THAT the Minutes of the Northland Conservation Board meeting held on 03 October 2008, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.**

**CARRIED**

## Matters arising from the Minutes

### Safe Shellfish Project

John Kenderdine said this was an ongoing issue. Effluent disposal issue is a fiasco and Councils need to change their attitude to address this. The bigger the scheme, the bigger the mess when systems fail. Councils need to look at smaller more efficient systems.

Victor Hollow said that the recent spillage of treated at Tokerau Beach was due to a faulty flange. A further spillage followed a week later at Coopers Beach. He said the outcome was abhorrent and impacted on the ability to catch fish and gather shellfish.

Ian Faulkner said the discharge of raw sewage was totally unacceptable. Councils need to address this issue. The current infrastructure does not meet the population growth and subsequent strain on the current systems. This issue should be addressed when building permits are being assessed. If the infrastructure can't cope with additional buildings, then no permit should be issued.

### Media Articles

Board Members were asked to make a conscious effort to provide articles for the local media.

The effluent disposal issue was a good one to get the ball rolling. Ken Ross agreed to undertake this task. He also provided an update with his work on effluent disposal advocacy with the Far North District Council including a trial using a natural wetland.

Julie Gordon to develop a paper about the *What, Who, Why* of the Conservation Board for subsequent issues.

### **Economic Value of Conservation**

Robin Lieffering said the economic value of conservation has become a very important component of conservation and a very important issue for the Board. She asked if there was any member of the Department's staff who could pick up on this important issue following the loss of Jeff Griggs, who had been involved with this issue at national level.

Hilary Aikman advised that there was no one at present able to take up this role.

Kevin Evans said that the economic value of conservation was going to be a major issue for the Board to pick up on, along the lines of the marine sustainability workshop.

Yvonne Sharp suggested that the Board write to the NZ Conservation Authority and ask the Authority to look into what is happening on the national scene. She said it was an issue to be kept at national level.

### **Auckland Conservation Board**

The Board Support Officer advised that no response had been received from the Auckland Conservation Board regarding the comment made at a previous Auckland Conservation Board meeting relating to "customary fishing in marine reserves".

Moved Robin Lieffering, seconded Kevin Evans

**THAT the Board WRITE a further letter to the Auckland Conservation Board seeking a response to the letter relating to comments made at a meeting of the Auckland Conservation Board regarding "customary fishing in marine reserves."**

**CARRIED**

### **Whangarei Harbour Marine Reserves Advisory Committee [WHMRAC]**

David Monro advised that the WHMRAC had met twice since its inception – the second meeting, however, lacked a quorum so outcomes needed to be formalised at a subsequent meeting. The next meeting was due to be held on 24 February 2009 and David Monro has undertaken to ensure that minutes from this meeting will be circulated to the Board in time for its April 2009 meeting.

### **Wild Animal Control – Pigs**

Robin Lieffering ask the Board to ask the Department of Conservation to work on identifying suitable areas for pig hunting with particular attention given to this issue in the Conservation Management Strategy review.

Kevin Evans said the areas considered to be set aside for pig hunting were outside the conservation estate. He said this was a national issue.

Ian Faulkner said that “aren’t there enough pigs out there already?” He said the Board must not be seen to be supporting an illegal act i.e. the release of pigs into areas exclusively for hunting purposes.

Kevin Evans said that if people are going to flout the law we need to look at other options. He said the appropriate place was through the process of the review of the Conservation Management Strategy.

Moved Robin Lieffering, seconded David Monro

**THAT the Board REQUEST the Department of Conservation, through the review of the Conservation Management Strategy for Northland, to take a proactive stance to identify potential areas for pig hunting.**

**CARRIED**

### **Concessions**

Kevin Evans advised that he had seen a DVD [virtual flyover] of windfarm locations, impacts etc. He said he wished he had seen this type of information when the Board was discussing the Meridian wind farm application at the previous meeting.

Hilary Aikman undertook to look into providing DVD material for future concession applications brought to the Board. She advised that the First Determination Report on the Meridian application was on target for completion in March 2009.

### **Kaipara District Plan Review – Mr Fred Lichwarke**

John Kenderdine asked if it would be possible to invite Mr Fred Lichwarke to give a presentation to the Board on the work undertaken in the Raglan Harbour.

Ken Ross and John Kenderdine to discuss and assess options to bring Mr Lichwarke to Northland.

### **Wairua River Wildlife Management Reserve, Hikurangi**

Richard Shepherd to meet with Rudi Hoetjes of the Fish and Game Council, Northland to discuss this issue of particular interest to his Hapu.

Kevin Evans asked for an update on the Wairua River Wildlife Management Reserve project. Hilary Aikman to follow this up and provide an update.

Richard Shepherd took issue with the use of the term “Iwi” instead of the correct term “Hapu”.

In future, all mention of Iwi or Hapu would be recorded as **“Iwi/Hapu”**.

## 2 Chairperson's Report

### a] Report for period under review

Kevin Evans advised that his time since the October 2008 meeting had almost exclusively been involved with Brown Teal management. 40 Brown Teal had been released at Tawharanui in February 2009, with a further 20 Brown Teal to be released into Milford Sound in March.

Liaison on the Conservation Management Strategy with key Department of Conservation staff was also undertaken during this period.

### b] Feedback from Site Inspections, Kaitaia Area – 18/19 February 2009

On behalf of all those present during the 1.5 day site inspections in the Kaitaia Area, Kevin Evans expressed his thanks and congratulations to Kaitaia Area Staff for an excellent programme.

Kevin Evans said the site visit to Puwheke and Maitai Bay campground was valuable, especially the opportunity to meet with representatives from Ngati Kahu and discuss a wide variety of issues, including outstanding Treaty Claim issues.

Kevin Evans spoke for all participants in expressing the impact on everyone of the visit to Te Rerenga Wairua/Cape Reinga [‘the Cape’]. The changes at the Cape were amazing and the impact when walking through the portel was stunning. He said that the Cape was a “jewel of Northland and New Zealand” and something we can be extremely proud of nationally and locally.

Kevin Evans said he enjoyed the extra length in the walk to the Lighthouse and the standard of the track and revegetation that has been carried out. He said the visual impact can only get better as the planting becomes established and the interpretation is installed.

Kevin Evans said the installation of view platforms on the way to the Cape was an inspiration and he looked forward to returning once the interpretation had been installed.

John Kenderdine asked if consideration could possibly be given to making mobility scooters available – perhaps as a concession option.

Ken Ross acknowledge the incredible partnership that has been developed between tangata whenua and the Department of Conservation. The focus has been on something very, very powerful.

Ken Ross said tour companies exploit people who live in and are guardians of the area. He said there is very little in it for them. He said something had to be done to change this situation. A lot of people in the Far North need to have some of the benefits from the visitors to the North.

Kevin Evans said that access to the Cape was free to everyone. He also said there were plenty of opportunities for local people to link into if they wanted to.

John Kenderdine said he would like to see the current concession process changed where local people have first option on any new concession. Preference should be given to locals. Local communities should be listened to.

Ken Ross said we need to come up with a process that allows people from the area to benefit from the visitors that go there. There should be some mechanism in place whereby a portion of concession fees come back to the local community.

Hilary Aikman advised that the Department is legally bound to ensure a fair and transparent concession process is followed. However, there are other ways that the Department looks to work with the local communities. Kaitaia Area has made big strides in working with local communities and providing opportunities for local involvement.

Hilary Aikman said there are mechanisms available in the Conservation Management Strategy to address local participation and contribution.

Robin Lieffering said that legislation can be changed through the NZ Conservation Authority. If a change in legislation was required to give effect to local communities benefiting from concession allocation and revenue, then this should be explored.

Kevin Evans drew attention to the need to consider the implications of Treaty Claim Settlements pending in the Far North that would see major changes on how this area was managed as a result of the Settlements.

Ken Ross said the Department should take a proactive stance and say to the people "this has been a wonderful partnership producing a magnificent facility at the Cape. Need to help the community to find a way to start to make some other changes. Here's some money so you can explore some of the opportunities e.g. set up small businesses etc." This would be seen as a gesture of goodwill to the people of the area.

Moved Robin Lieffering, seconded John Kenderdine

<p><b>THAT the Board WRITE to the Department of Conservation and expressing, with considerable direction, that in considering concessions in areas in Northland that local people are given special consideration over all others.</b></p>
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The motion was put to the vote and **CARRIED 7/1**

Kevin Evans believed in a true and fair system and did not believe local people were being disadvantaged in the current system.

Moved Kevin Evans, seconded Julie Gordon

<b>THAT the Board</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>RECEIVE the Chairperson's report and thank him for his contribution and efforts.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>CONGRATULATE the Department on the excellent changes made at Te Rerenga Wairua/Cape Reinga.</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>THANK Kaitaia Area staff for their contribution and organization of the site inspections held on 18/19 February 2009</b>
<b>CARRIED</b>	

10.30 a.m. Meeting recessed for morning tea.

11 a.m. Meeting resumed.

### **3 Northland Conservancy Reports**

#### **Conservator Northland's Report**

The Report from the Conservator Northland, circulated in the Agenda, was taken as read.

#### **Te Roroa Settlement**

Robin Lieffering asked if a summary and maps could be circulated to the Board regarding the implications of the implementation of the Deed of Settlement.

Hilary Aikman to look into this for the next Board meeting.

John Kenderdine expressed concern at the financial impact on Areas as a result of Treaty Settlements, particularly when large amounts of operating funds are being used for this purpose, which is not reimbursed or compensated for. This is having a major impact on operating funds and the ability of Areas to undertake core conservation programmes

Moved John Kenderdine, seconded, Kevin Evans

**THAT the Board write to the Minister of Conservation expressing concern at the financial impacts on local Department of Conservation operating funds as a result of the Treaty Settlements.**

**CARRIED**

### **Conservation Support Unit Report**

Hilary Aikman responded to questions on issues contained in the Conservation Support Unit Report

### **Relationships**

Robin Leiffering asked if the Board could receive a summary of some of the community groups that the Board should be addressing that are not being met at the moment. We need to get the Board noticed and encourage people to attend meetings.

Yvonne Sharp said that the use of Media Releases of meetings and reiterating that all Board meetings are open to the public is a good step.

### **Phytophthora taxon agathis [PTA]**

Hilary Aikman provided an update on the PTA toxin and the work the Department was undertaking including research being undertaken on how the toxin is spread and its impacts. She advised that John Beachman had been appointed to manage this project and would work closely with Dr Tony Beauchamp the Northland Conservancy Scientist working on this project.

Hilary Aikman advised that the key action was to protect the roots of the trees and appropriate steps had been taken, including appropriate signage and track upgrades, to ensure visitors were well aware of the issue.

### **Rats on Hen and Chickens Islands**

Hilary Aikman reported that the two rats that had been sighted had been caught and to date no further invasions had occurred. However, Whangarei Area staff continue to monitor the situation closely. She said it was a credit to the prompt actions taken by Whangarei Area staff that has enabled this issue to be contained.

Kevin Evans asked if a contingency fund was available for the Conservancy to lock into in cases such as this that take up so much time and resources.

Hilary Aikman said that Head Office has an operational fund to assist Conservancies with biosecurity set-up costs so they have the necessary facilities and equipment to prevent and respond to incursions. Actual incursions are funded on a *case by case* basis and the relevant Conservancy is required to cover such incidents in the first instance. She also said that in such incidents all Conservancies help each other out e.g. share equipment etc and this keeps additional costs down to an acceptable level.

Moved Kevin Evans, seconded Ian Faulkner

**THAT the Board RECEIVE the reports from the Conservator Northland and the Conservation Support Manager, for the period under review and thank them and their staff for their efforts and contribution.**

**CARRIED**

#### 4 Inward and Outward Correspondence

Moved Kevin Evans, seconded Julie Gordon

**THAT the Board RECEIVE the Inward Correspondence and ENDORSE the Outward Correspondence as detailed on the schedule provided, for the period under review.**

**CARRIED**

#### 5 Northland Conservation Board Financial Report

Moved Ian Faulkner, seconded David Monro

**THAT the Board RECEIVE the financial report for the period under review.**

**CARRIED**

#### 6 Future Board Meetings and Inspections

John Kenderline questioned why the number of Board meetings had been reduced to four and asked if this was a budgetary issue.

The Board Support Officer reminded the Board that at the previous meeting the need to free up time and funds to enable Board members to attend all meetings associated with the review of the Conservation Management Strategy was highlighted and agreed to.

Setting four formal meetings for the current financial year, [one in each of four Areas and associated site inspections where appropriate] was seen as adequate to meet the public expectations.

Hilary Aikman advised of an opportunity to update the Board on the implications of the Te Roroa Treaty Settlement, associated Conservation Management Strategy issues and a possible Kauri National Park covering the Waipoua Forest, was being considered for April 2009.

To assist with discussions with Te Roroa the Board indicated that **02/03 April 2009** dates would be suitable to the Board. Hilary Aikman to take this on board when discussing the options with Te Roroa. The outcome of these discussions would be advised to the Board.

Kevin Evans said that if the hui with Te Roroa was not able to be held on 02 April 2009 that the Board confirm Friday, 03 April 2009 as the next formal Board meeting to be held at the Kauri Coast Area Office, Dargaville.

The Board Support Officer will keep the Board updated on progress for the April meetings.

A date and venue for the following meeting in June/July 2009, would be made at the April 2009 meeting.

Moved Ian Faulkner, seconded Richard Shephard

**THAT the Board**

- 1 **CONFIRM the date for the next Board meeting as Friday, 03 April 2009 at the Kauri Coast Area Office, Dargaville.**
- 2 **NOTE the opportunity for a hui with Te Roroa on 02 April 2009 [venue to be at the invitation of Te Roroa].**
- 3 **NOTE that Hilary Aikman will be following up the hui with Te Roroa and advising the Board of the outcome.**

**CARRIED**

## 7 **Conservation Management Strategy [CMS]**

Piet Nieuwland provided an update on progress with the review of the Conservation Management Strategy for Northland. He also drew attention to the request to the Board for an extension of the current CMS to 15 April 2011.

Robin Lieffering asked why the extension was necessary?

Piet Nieuwland explained that delays had occurred in the development of the framework for the CMS for all Conservancies. Also, initially it was hoped that the Northland and Auckland CMSs would be released at the same time to save costs etc. However, this has not been possible so it is now necessary for Northland to seek an extension for the current CMS.

Moved Kevin Evans, seconded Ken Ross

**THAT the Board APPROVE an extension of the current Northland Conservation Management Strategy, to 15 April 2011.**

**CARRIED**

Piet Nieuwland advised that the draft CMS was scheduled to go out for public consultation in June 2009. Following the publication there would be time for receiving submissions; hearings; summarising submissions; revising the draft. The CMS was expected to be handed to the Board for approval in February 2010. The Board would then have a maximum of 6 months to consider the document.

Piet Nieuwland said that the impact of Treaty Settlements and a potential Kauri National Park for Northland, would have an impact on the final CMS.

Moved Robin Lieffering, seconded Julie Gordon

**THAT the Board RECEIVE the update on progress with the review of the Northland Conservation Management Strategy and thank Piet Nieuwland for his efforts.**

**CARRIED**

### **Presentation from Lon Peters, Programme Manager, Iwi Liaison, Kaitaia Area**

Lon Peters provided the Board with an outline on how Kaitaia Area developed its “Places” section in the CMS.

Lon Peters took the Board through the process from the “blank sheet” phase to completed document. He outlined the methods undertaken and the collective/collegiate input from Kaitaia Area Programme Managers and Key Staff [including the Area Manager].

Lon Peters said the components of the document were divided amongst relevant staff i.e.\ biodiversity, recreation/visitors, cultural/historic, community and general. Once all the individual components were completed the Group met to collate the information looking for

- Common themes
- Try to leave nothing behind – be transparent
- Keep and honest and open process
- Make the end point really clear

Guidance was sought from the Conservator at all stages to ensure the document accurately reflected the strategic directions for the Conservancy. Technical staff from the Conservation Support Unit were involved at all phases to ensure that the document was technically correct.

Lon Peters said it was important that note was taken all the way that the document was

- For the public
- Fully transparent
- Clear of “DOCSpeak & Jargon”
- Have a Northland flavour.
- Capture the essence of what was said during meetings/hui with the community.

Lon Peters said highlights for him were getting out their into the community, being on the Marae, listening to what the people really wanted. He said it had been a privilege and a pleasure to be part of this discussion and information gathering process.

Lon Peters said that it was very much a Team effort that entailed a great deal of work and goodwill. The challenge now is to not lose the vitality and passion when completing the final document.

Kevin Evans thanked Lon Peters for the presentation and the effort that he and his Team have put into developing the Kaitaia Places component of the CMS. He congratulated Kaitaia Area staff on setting the standard.

Lon Peters said the Outcome Statement in the CMS should provide a picture of what the community wants for its “place”.

Robin Lieffering congratulated Lon Peters and his Team on the style of the document. There is a need to give colour and recognise the colour of the rhetoric from the people.

Rongo Bentson congratulated DOC and the work undertaken. He said the development of the CMS was an interesting process. What is going to happen as a result of Treaty Settlements was as yet unknown.

## **8 Board Action Schedule**

The Action Schedule from the 03 October 2008 Board meeting held in Dargaville, was updated.

## **9 Board Liaison**

### **a] Fish & Game Council, Northland**

Ian Faulkner reported on a recent meeting of Fish and Game Council, Northland he attended on behalf of the Board.

Ian Faulkner advised that the issue of Canada Geese was a main topic for discussion as a result of the finalisation of changes to the Schedule in the Wildlife Act. Canada Geese were no longer part of the Schedule as a “game species” and had been categorised as “pests”.

Fish and Game Councils rely on revenue from the sale of hunting & fishing licences. Hunters were clearly not happy that the money they pay to Fish and Game to sustain species for hunting is actually spent on slaughtering to control numbers in some locations. Fish and Game should be given responsibility for carrying out the control of species via hunting, but funded separately for specific control operations.

Ian Faulkner explained that this change did not affect Northland but had major implications for the South Island. The Northland Council expressed concern that the changes would create inconsistencies in terms of national management of Canada Geese. The Council would like to see Canada Geese retained on the Schedule as a “game species”.

Ian Faulkner said he continued to enjoy attending the Fish and Game Council meetings and believed the Council was doing a very effective and efficient job.

**b] Big Game Fishing Council**

John Kenderdine advised that the Big Game Fishing Council had adopted “Hiwi the Kiwi” to promote fishing conservation. The current promotion was entitled “Hiwi the Kiwi Goes Fishing” aimed at encouraging children to practice conservation when fishing. It was hoped to take this as a nationwide programme.

**c] North Eastern Bioregion Marine Protected Areas Forum**

John Kenderdine advised that this Forum was expected to be established by July 2009 covering the East Cape to Ahipara. The Forum would consist of :

- 1 [paid] Chair
- 14 appointed [non paid] Members
- 10 Community Groups [this would include conservation groups and tangata whenua].

John Kenderdine expressed concern that because only the Chair of the Board would be paid, the membership would be heavily weighted with wealthy retired people with the time and money to devote to this type of activity. These people usually did not put conservation interests high on their agenda.

John Kenderdine said that the Board had a budget to hold one consultation meeting in each area. He said he believed this could only work if there was effort put into supporting existing local groups who are already consulting in their communities. Current Forum set up, however, would be expected to do the whole thing itself

**Aquaculture Management Areas**

Ken Ross said that as part of the discussion on Marine Protected Areas he wanted to reiterate to the Board his strong convictions about the current emphasis on putting the “economy” ahead of social and environmental considerations. He said this was one of the major factors affecting global warming and our effectiveness to address this nationally and internationally.

Ken Ross said we live in a biosphere and the economy is a small part of society. He said the current model being followed in 2009 is totally divorced from reality. He believed the ideal model to be followed should consider

First: Is it O.K. for the environment?

Second: Is it O.K. for all people concerned?

Third: Is it economically viable?

Ken Ross said the world is basically facing runaway climate change. He said the biggest questions if for nations to “face reality”. He said the Board and the NZ Conservation Authority need to stand up and be counted.

Robin Lieffering supported Ken Ross’ comments and said that the principles he had outlined should be placed in the Conservation Management Strategy and stated as an over-arching statement.

Board Members agreed that the principles outlined be adopted as part of the Chair “Foreword” to the Conservation Management Strategy.

The principal of Environment First, Society Second and Economy Third was a simple but powerful statement.

Moved Ken Ross seconded Robin Lieffering

**THAT the Board provide an overarching statement in the Chair Foreword to the Conservation Management Strategy stating the principle of putting the Environment First, Society Second and the Economy Third.**

**CARRIED**

John Kenderdine asked for feedback on current applications for aquaculture management areas before the Northland Regional Council. He asked if updates on this activity could be included in the Conservation Support Unit Report to the Board.

Hilary Aikman said that she would follow this up with Andrew Riddell, Conservation Support Supervisor, Statutory Planning.

It was also agreed that “Marine Protected Areas” would be included as an item for the next Board meeting Agenda. Ken Ross to provide a paper for inclusion in the Agenda.

John Kenderdine asked if Vince Kerr, Technical Support Supervisor, Marine, Department of Conservation, Northland Conservancy, be invited to make a presentation to the Board at the next Board meeting.

Hilary Aikman advised that she would discuss this with Vince to assess his availability to present an update at the next Board meeting.

**1 p.m. The meeting recessed for lunch.**

**1.30 p.m The meeting resumed.**

## **10 Public Forum**

Before the Public Forum was convened, the meeting was treated to a fascinating demonstration from Mr Warren Snow and Mr M. Jegatheeson on a revolutionary new technology for addressing turbulence [wind and water]. The Gyro Torque Continuously variable Transmission device was explained and demonstrated to a fascinated audience. The unit employs gyroscopic torque reaction to transmit power offering an alternative to the gearbox and electrical variable speed drive of a conventional wind turbine. The torque generated by a gyro is fundamentally oscillatory and is rectified by mechanical elements.

At the conclusion of the demonstration [to a round of applause from the audience] Kevin Evans thanked Mr Snow and Mr Jegatheeson for their time and for providing the Board with the opportunity to view this new technology.

Kevin Evans went on to welcome all the Members of the Public present and invited each to make a 5min presentation to the Board.

### **Victor Holloway, representing Ngati Kahu**

Victor Holloway thanked the Board for inviting him to speak and for meeting with representatives of Ngati Kahu, including Dr Margaret Mutu, during the course of the site visit over the previous 1.5 days. He said this type of interaction continued to build on the good working relationship between the Board and Ngati Kahu.

Victor Holloway said that he would be pleased to arrange a meeting between Ngati Kahu and the Board and host the Board on the Ngati Kuri Marae.

Kevin Evans thanked Victor Holloway and said the Board would be delighted to accept the offer to meet with Ngati Kahu on its Marae at a future date suitable to both organizations.

### **Rongo Bentson, representing Te Runanga o Te Rarawa**

Rongo Bentson advised that Te Runanga o Te Rarawa was currently going through a period of restructuring to better integrate the various portfolios. Te Runanga currently employed 60 staff with the focus being on the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Rongo Bentson advised that Bromwyn Hunt had recently been appointed Policy Advisor to the Runanga.

Rongo Bentson said that the restructuring would enable the Runanga to do a lot more and a lot more will be expected of Te Rarawa. He said it was hoped that the Te Rarawa Treaty Claim Settlement could be finalised in 2009 that would include the Whenua Ngahere concept. He said the Department of Conservation in Kaitaia was enthusiastic to implement the concept.

Rongo Bentson said that he was pleased with the recent CMS consultation hui and it brought Department of Conservation staff and the community together. He said the Runanga was planning four more hui covering what the Department of Conservation is doing and bring Iwi/Hapu up to date.

Rongo Bentson said Te Rarawa was planning a 'Reclaim Warawara Day' to draw attention to the environmental issues in the Forest e.g. possum control, the initiative to bring the Rifleman back to Warawara and the potential for a National Park option for the Forest. He said our environment is the greatest resource we have to show. He said the Day would be an opportunity for people to have a really good look around the Forest – particularly those who had never been there before.

### **Mai Aperahama, representing Muriwhenua Inc.**

Mai Aperahama thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to speak. He said he had listened carefully to the discussion to date and found them very useful. He said he supported the Department using local workforce. He drew attention to issues facing Muriwhenua Inc including

- Rats on Islands
- Sewage issue at Te Hapua impinging on the Harbour – a major issue as more people were coming home to the north and the increase in population was having a major impact on the current sewage arrangement.

Mai Aperaham said this was his first visit to a Conservation Board meeting and it was good to be there and to be able to sit down and talk together.

Kevin Evans thanked all the participants in the Public Forum and hoped that they would continue to attend Board meetings, where possible, as they and their contribution were most welcome.

## 11 Board Issues Identified for Discussion at the Meeting

### a] Goals & Objectives Review

Board Members were asked to consider the current “Goals and Objectives” and provide comments, in writing, to the Board Support Officer, on possible changes to more accurately reflect the current Board’s aspirations.

These changes would be discussed at the next Board meeting.

### b] Deputy Chair

Moved Kevin Evans, seconded Ian Faulkner that Jeroen Jongegans’ name go forward for consideration as Deputy Chair.

Moved John Kenderdine, seconded Ken Ross that Helene Leaf’s name go forward for consideration as Deputy Chair.

The issue of appointing two Deputy Chair was discussed.

Robin Lieffering questioned the practicality and feasibility of having two Deputy Chairs.

Moved David Monro, seconded Richard Shepherd

**THAT the Board APPOINT Helene Leaf and Jeroen Jongejans to be Co-Deputy Chair for the Northland Conservation Board.**

The motion was put and was **CARRIED 8/1**

### c] Coastal Resource Proposal

Discussion took place on the paper provided to the Board by Wade Doak and tabled on his behalf by Robin Lieffering.

Robin Lieffering said that people who put the environment first and are passionate about the issues are often dismissed. She said the paper from Wade Doak sat in this category and said the Board needed to take time for people passionate about the environment.

Robine Lieffering drew attention to key points in the paper including

“Fishermen would have rights to controlled, sustainable fishing in the area [perhaps twin hook hand-lining and such like but no set nets or seines] and would make the decision themselves to restrict fishing in critical areas of the park to rehabilitate fish stocks.

“Tourists would pay to catch their fish for them and then eat it at a local restaurant.

“Downstream, attracting marine oriented tourists, this fish has value to the local accommodation, restaurant, travel trades and to the home-based artefact culture.”

Robin Lieffering said that the main focus is on locals catching fish for local consumption and all proceeds from these activities would be a direct benefit to the local community, as opposed to commercial fishing by foreign owned enterprises where the profits are returned to the country of origin.

Moved Robin Lieffering, seconded John Kenderdine

**THAT the Board**

1. **RECEIVE** the paper from Wade Doak.
  2. **SUPPORT**, in principle, the concept that fish caught locally consumed locally [including customary fishing] is taken into account when mechanisms and regulations are being considered.
- CARRIED**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at **3.10 p.m**

Kevin Evans  
CHAIRPERSON  
20 February 2009