

Minutes of NZMPTA Council Meeting
2nd July 2025 @ 11.00am
TEAMS Video Call



Present: Les Sinclair, Craig Burrows, Marty Bloy, Danny Simmonds, Darren Main, Sam Anderson & Trevor Foley & Executive Officer (E.O), Maria Scott.

Apologies: Gareth Cowan, Gary Reilly, Trevor Fowlie, Craig Russell, Martin Doohan

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Accepted as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes: Course costs have been increased and new rates are showing on website. New lease document for Training Centre has been received and is being signed by all parties. Overall rent decreased \$2,232, however, OPEX charges increased \$5,515pa. Scheduled June & July print advertising promoting milking machine testing has been cancelled.

Financial Statement: presented and accepted. Approx. combined net position \$55,299 This figure includes \$22k still outstanding for apprentice training between Sept '24 – May '25, \$18.5k for course fees and \$2k for 2025 Membership. Plus \$39k to be paid for completion of micro-credential qualifications. MPTA Council is concerned re the financial situation of the Association and financial restraint is required.

Accounts for Payment: Accounts paid since last meeting and accounts received but yet to be paid were tabled and approved.

New Members: Harris Pumps & Filtration, Hastings. Northland Dairy & Lifestyle Specialists, Kerikeri (have purchased Northern Dairy Specialists). Awa Dairy Solutions, New Plymouth (formally with Aqua Taranaki).

Withdrawn Members: Northern Dairy Specialists – sold business.

Practising Certificate Approvals:

~~Luke Adamson & Ned Livingstone, Southland Farm Services. Sean Hill, Machinery Maintenance.~~
David Thomson, Milk N Water Services. Freya Ahrendt, Miranda Buechel, Reza Tayeh, Dion Kennedy, Andrew Ermio & Alasdair Courten, Morrison Agri. Scott Robinson & Allister Thomas, Dairymaster Milking Systems. Graham Beck, Kemsley Dairy Services. Mason Fleming, Better Dairy Solutions. Devon Woods, Dairytech South. Ben Irvine, Nigel Fennell & Travis Diack, Progressive Engineering. Phillip Mackie, Kawakawa Engineering. Nick De Ridder, Advance Dairy & Pump. Sean Sandri, Ahoy Engineering. David Stone, Bromley Dairy & Pumps. Steve Busch, Cotter & Stevens. Alastair Hodgkinson, Awa Dairy Solutions. Chris Symes, Spring Meadow Services. Nick Body & Darren Green, McLaren's Rural. Georgia Canning, On Farm Agri Centre. Jordan Norton, Qubik. Liam Sell, Nind Dairy Services. David Duncan, MacDougalls – Approved.

H & S: Nothing to report.

Training Activity: Ran Farm Water Reticulation course in May in Invercargill with 7 participants. Cancelled May Farm Dairy Management Systems course as only 2 registrations. Am running a Small Drinking Water Supplies course for Members Aqua Works in 14-16 July with 7 pax. No other courses scheduled until October.

Micro-credential Development: The three new Micro-credentials have been accepted by NZQA and are currently with peer review (at NZQA). Tyree & the Tutors are working on the new Assessments / Workbooks which will go through pre-moderation in August. We

should be delivering these new Milking Machine Testing, Farm Dairy Management Systems & Small Drinking Water Supplies Micro-credentials from October onwards.

Apprenticeship Update: We have around 63 active apprentices, 35 completed, and 105 withdrawn.

Water Industry Certificate of Recognition: 258 people have attempted the application process with 127 having completed. 78 partially completed applications to be followed up.

Effluent WOF Assessor Programme: DairyNZ have been advised that we wish to take over this training programme and DairyNZ are to prepare the formal paperwork and we have chased them for this on 18/06/25. Have received notification from QCONZ who manage the i-Leader reporting interface that they would charge around \$8000 - \$10000 annually for MPTA to use the interface. Trevor Foley will have further discussions with DairyNZ about the costs and ask if they will cover the i-Leader costs. Another possible option may be for MPTA to have a program developed specifically for reporting that we own and manage. As previously agreed and minuted, the initial intention is that we will take this program on but not allocate any expenditure until further due diligence is done.

Farm Dairy Assessment: A list of common faults and recommendations with critical, major or minor rankings has been prepared by sub-committee. Danny Simmonds will finish off collating and it will then be emailed to all Testers for feedback before a final version is approved and implemented.

Plumbers Act Restrictions: Deborah Prus-Loughlin from White International has agreed to facilitate the bringing together of an industry focus group to discuss agreeance on strategy and demarcation lines of where 'sanitary' plumbing starts and finishes. Once an agreement is reached the industries involved can approach MBIE with the industry agreed solution.

Equipment Calibration: We have been approached by two Member companies interested in doing airflow meter calibration and asking us to provide the testing parameters. Darren Main has prepared a document and calibration certificate derived from the relative ISO standards setting out requirements. E.O will share this info to the Member companies involved, however, MPTA will not provide any specific standards or specs – this is for the interested companies to investigate themselves.

International Students: Tyree from Training Centric is creating a proposal with Auckland University to bring 3-4 groups from China to NZ under 3-month visitor visas which allow them to study non-formally. Her proposal would include 3-weeks English language (focusing on industry jargon), then they complete either our Milking Machine Testing course or our Farm Dairy Systems Management course, or both. Plus may include some time with industry on farms if possible. She has suggested we need an International Student rate which she would build into the proposal. Agreed that this would be \$4,500.00 (including gst) for each course.

The Future MPTA: We have had no response as yet re our request for assistance of a Fonterra Graduate employee to assist MPTA in boosting awareness of MPTA and what we do around training & advocacy, and drive course registrations via social media avenues. We need to have more robust discussions around what are the outcomes MPTA wants to achieve and how we can drive these. Will be tabled for next face to face meeting.


Updates to Testing Standards Manual: Some updates have been provided by OEM for their latest specs. Still awaiting a few more responses and manual will be updated. Updates will also need to be embedded into the AutoRep App & the Digital Standards.

AutoRep: Numerous updates are required to our existing App and Y5 Ltd have provided a quote for this work at \$40,530. E.O. to approach Roby from QCONZ to see if he is interested in managing the App updates for us (in his personal capacity), and enquire if he is he aware of other options for hosting the App.

Dairy Test X: Council have approved that the data format supplied by the Innovag Dairy Test X unit can be accepted from existing Milking Machine Testers when sending in their six tests for marking to have their Practising Certificate renewed. However, a Visual Faults Checklist & Test Summary page must also be included. To be notified to Testers.

Meeting concluded: 9.33am

Signed



7-07-25

Marty Bloy, Vice-President.