

**Minutes of NZMPTA Council Meeting
4th November 2025 @ 11.00am
GEA, Hamilton**

Present: Gary Reilly, Les Sinclair, Craig Burrows, Danny Simmonds, Trevor Foley, Trevor Fowlie, Martin Doohan, Gareth Cowan & Executive Officer (E.O) Maria Scott.

Apologies:, Marty Bloy, Darren Main & Sam Anderson

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

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Financial Statement: presented and accepted. Approx. net position \$17,650

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

New Members: Taylor Purification, Ruahine Plumbing & Pumps Ltd, Prime Fluid Management, Cleanflo Filtration - Approved

Practising Certificate Approvals:

Tom Pedersen, CM Engineering. Stacy Spittal, Rakaia Dairy Services. RJ Hampton & Brad Saunders, Pratt Milking. Angus Drury, 60/40 Milking. Daniel Penney, Milking Machine Testing Services. Orlando Sildo, Canterbury Farm Services. Brett Dawson, DairyPro. Riley Smith & Josh Gray, Progressive Engineering. Richard Cochrane, Northland Dairy & Lifestyle Specialists - Approved.

H & S: Nothing to report.

Training Activity: 10 pax on October Testing course and only 6 on November course. Small Drinking Water Supplies in Hamilton ran with 11 participants, Pump course in Christchurch had 10 & Effluent course in Hamilton ran with 8. Three other water courses in October were cancelled due to lack to registrations. 2026 course dates have been set.

Apprenticeship Update: Competenz have advised that there are currently 72 active apprentices. Tyree Connor joined us via video call & gave an update on changes to the education system which will see ITOs, such as Competenz, disestablished as at 1/1/26. This effects Competenz who are considering the option of becoming a PTE, if they do so, TEC have indicated that two PTEs can not partner together to provide a qualification – as we currently do with Competenz, and so Competenz will not be able to provide the apprenticeship qualification for us beyond 2027. We have also spoken with ATNZ who are existing PTE that also deliver Engineering qualifications for apprentices, they reiterated the mandate from TEC that two PTE can not partner to deliver a qualification. E.O. to approach TEC to enquire what options will be available for us to allow our apprentices to continue and complete.

Course Reports: from two courses in October were circulated.

Micro-credential Development: The three new Micro-credentials for Milking Machine Testing, Farm Dairy Systems Management & Small Drinking Water Supplies are now fully approved. The first Testing course & SDWS course have been run in this new format and the FDSM will run in the new format in November.

Effluent WOF Assessor Programme: Draft contract has been perused and a few changes are to requested from DairyNZ. Once a 'clean' copy is received, it can be forwarded to lawyer to

look over before signing. We have both Professional Liability Insurance (protection for failure in professional duty or advice, including in training and accreditation), and Management and Entity insurance (protects executive for mismanagement or government issues) that should cover us for any claim should the content of this course material be incorrect or outdated, consequently resulting in a learner being financially out of pocket due to actions taken, or advice given based on the information we provided. DairyNZ have agreed to host and manage changes to the WOF Assessor website and they will acquire the website from QCONZ. QCONZ have archived the i-Leader reporting programme – a new template is to be prepared & Tyree will look into if she can do this on FORMS or in the QCONZ SYNC App. E.O. has received three enquires in past few weeks for this training. Promotion to go out to all Members calling for expressions of interest to gauge potential numbers for a course.

Farm Dairy Assessment: Final tweaks were done on the list of common faults and recommendations with critical, major or minor rankings and this can now be circulated to all Machine Testers and Dealer Principals.

Fonterra Water Exclusion Plan: Danny provide Fonterra's notice about payment incentive to reduce farms on water exclusion. E.O. to circulate to Members for their info.

AutoRep: Innovag Australia have looked into the requirements to host AutoRep & SmartStandards and they are confident they can do this, including doing updates and hosting. Have sent a sample of what type of updates are required and requested if they have the capacity to do this and at what cost structure.

The Future MPTA: A summary of feedback at the last meeting highlighted a number of key elements:

- Stagnation and Low Member Support
- Industry Focus and Representation
- Training and Advocacy
- Governance and Structure Concerns
- Branding and Digital Presence

E.O. to approach OH Marketing to discuss website update and social media presence.

Following a recent meeting Craig Burrows had with Carl Bates, MP for Wanganui and the Deputy Chairman of the Education and Workforce Select Committee, we have emailed him requesting a meeting with himself and Minister of Education, Erica Stanford, and Minister of Agriculture, Todd McClay to discuss:

- Future of apprenticeship in jeopardy pending latest changes to tertiary education and the potential that our apprenticeship will be dropped
- Awareness at Government level of what we do for the primary industry, including legislative requirements of MPI
- Issues of recruiting, and retaining, people to the industry due to a lack of awareness at school level
- What are the avenues for training and development funding

Next Meeting 16/12/25 via TEAMS video call

Meeting concluded: 3.25pm

Signed



Gary Reilly, President.