

Minutes of NZMPTA Council Meeting
7th May 2025 @ 11.00am
GEA Hamilton

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

Apologies: Gareth Cowan (however, he joined us via TEAMS for the discussion on WOF Assessor Training program).

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

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Financial Statement: presented and accepted. Approx. combined net position \$81,760
This figure includes \$20k still outstanding for apprentice training between Sept '24 – Mar '25, and \$6.2k outstanding for 2025 Membership & AutoRep licences, plus \$33k to be paid for completion of micro-credential qualifications

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

New Members: NIL

Withdrawn Members: Opotiki Engineering – retiring. Northland Milking Systems – being bullied in industry by competitors. Northland Water Services – life changed course. FDL Water Services.

Practising Certificate Approvals:

Michelle Richardson, Milking & Water Systems. Mike Mallard & Ryan Mallard, Dannevirke Dairy Supplies. Greg Lister, Independent Tester. Jason Yeeles, Qubik. Jeff Swanson, QWS. Jonno Ross, On Farm Agri Centre. Richie Phillips, Southland Farm Services. Bechan Ellis, Ashlee Stevenson, Luke Roberts & Yago Vera Paredes Morrison Agri. Trae Gotty, McGregor's Farm Services. Max Preston, Dairymaster Milking Systems. Tyler Birchfield, DairyTech South. Alex Knight, King Farm Services – Approved.

Election of Office Bearers: Gary Reilly nominated & re-elected as President. Marty Bloy nominated and elected as Vice-President. Craig Russell elected as Technical Committee Chair for Water / Pumping and Craig Burrows re-elected as Technical Committee Chairperson for Milking.

Change to MPTA Rules: The following proposed Rule changes were put to MPTA Members through the period March – May 2025 via a SurveyMonkey vote and paper version voting forms. Votes received and outcomes are displayed below.

1. Should MPTA retain it's status of an Incorporated Society and reregister under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022?

Total Votes Received	For	Against	Outcome
48	47	1	MPTA shall remain as an Incorporated Society and re-register under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022

1.a) *Can you recommend an industry related not-for-profit entity that we could list in our Constitution to receive the assets of MPTA should MPTA withdraw from being an Incorporated Society?*

Total Votes Received	Suggestions	Outcome
6	Rural Support Trust x 4 Young Farmers x 1 NZ Dairy Industry Awards Trust x 1 Water NZ x 1	Rules to be amended to stipulate that any surplus assets held by MPTA at the time it withdraws from being an Incorporated Society shall be distributed to a suitable not-for-profit, industry related, entity or entities that operate within the realms of, or in support of, MPTA's core sectors of milk harvesting, rural water or pumping services, or dairy effluent.

2. *Do you agree that Associate Members of MPTA be afforded the same rights as Dealer and OEM Members?*

Total Votes Received	For	Against	Outcome
45	33	12	Associate Members of MPTA shall be afforded the same rights as Dealer and OEM Members

3. *Do you agree that the President and Vice-President may remain in those appointed roles for more than 3 consecutive years if there is no other nomination received, and the decision for that person to remain in the role is unanimous?*

Total Votes Received	For	Against	Outcome
46	43	3	The MPTA President and Vice-President may remain in their appointed roles for more than 3 consecutive years if there is no other nomination received for that position, and the decision for that person to remain in the role is unanimous among the remaining present Council Officers

H & S: Nothing to report.

Training Activity: April Testing course ran at full capacity of 12. Have run 2 courses for Members - 43 South (Small Drinking Water Supplies) with 8 participants, and a course for 10 Fonterra Milk Quality Managers. Am struggling to get minimum numbers on water courses and three courses have been postponed till later in the year. Facilitation costs are high, and we need to pass this cost onto learners.

Course costs: We will increase our course fees 10% across the board. Non-Members will be charged an additional \$350 which aligns with our current annual Membership fee price and will be invited to join MPTA to secure the Member price. With a view to attract more learners on courses, we can offer Members a payment option of paying 50% deposit and pay the balance within 3 months.

Advertising: Have recently run an ad in the April edition of NZDairy Publication promoting it is now time to get your Milking Machine Tested – cost \$1,000 + gst. Ads in Dairy Exporter, Dairy News & radio have been booked for June / July, however, after discussion around the value of such advertising it was decided that we will cease print and radio advertising.

Lease of training Premises: The lease on the Training Centre premises in Palmerston North is due for renewal on 31st May 2025. Landlord has advised an increase of 13.7% in line with CPI which will bring the cost up to \$28,071.36 + OPEX & GST. However, as an incentive for MPTA to renew the lease for 3 years, they are offering a 20% discount on that with no rent review over the three-year term. This will reduce the annual rent to \$22,456.80 + OPEX & GST effective 01/06/2025. Agreed to take this option for 3 years.

Micro-credential Development: All three micro-credential proposals have now been advanced to NZQA for approval. A major restructure of the Tertiary Education system has been announced which will see Competenz disbanded, and their role taken on by local Polytechs and / or PTEs. WDCs will change to a different format. Tyree will advise what this looks like and how it effects our apprentices as more information is known.

Farm Dairy Assessment: Danny Simmonds will complete the list of common faults and indicate recommendations and a critical, major or minor ranking for each. This will then be emailed to all Testers for feedback before a final version is approved and communicated to Testers.

Plumbers Act Restrictions: Marty Bloy & Deborah Prus-Loughlin are talking with several industry people across PGDB and our Members with the purpose of coming to an agreeance on strategy and demarcation line and to then make a united approach to MBIIE for a resolution.

Effluent WOF Assessor Programme: DairyNZ have supplied further information about the running of the WOF Assessor Training Program and Council have agreed to take over the Program from DairyNZ. The initial intention is that we will take this on but not allocate any expenditure until further due diligence is done. E.O. to advise Dairy NZ of our intention to proceed.

The Future MPTA: A proposal has been prepared to request assistance from a Fonterra Graduate employee to assist MPTA with view to boosting awareness of MPTA and what we do around training & advocacy, and drive course registrations via social media avenues. D Simmonds will put request to Fonterra. A PowerPoint presentation has been prepared that Council Members can use to promote the work of MPTA when visiting existing or potential Members – E.O. will format this and distribute.

Water Industry Certificate of Recognition: 253 people have attempted the application process with 122 having completed – certificates are being issued. 77 partially completed applications to be followed up.

Updates to Testing Standards Manual: It is timely to review OEM data in the Standards Manual to ensure it is still current. E.O to send out exiting specs to OEMs and ask for updated data.

AutoRep: Numerous updates are required to our existing App and Y5 Ltd have been asked to provide a quote for this work. Gary Reilly will discuss with Innovag in Australia if they can manage our AutoRep App and integrate it in with the reporting of their pulsator testers.

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 sending in their six tests for marking to have their Practising Certificate renewed for another two years. A Visual Faults Checklist must also be included. New Machine Testers are still required to submit their first six tests in handwritten format and may then use the Dairy Test X data to present as the Machine Test Report after they have had the Registered Tester status awarded.

Meeting concluded: 3.45pm

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Reilly', written in a cursive style.

Gary Reilly, President.