

**Minutes of NZMPTA Council Meeting
25 May 2022 @ 8.30am
Online TEAMS Video Call**

Present: Brian Ebert, Kevin Warner, Paul Dixon, Trevor Fowlie, Gary Reilly, Ross Mugeridge, Trevor Foley & Maria Scott

Apologies: Darren Main, Andy Geissmann, Craig Burrows

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

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes: Research into industry charge out rates yet to be actioned. Les Sinclair has accepted invitation to be part of our Milking Technical Committee.

Financial Statement: presented and accepted. Approx. combined net position \$188,130

Accounts for Payment: Accounts previously paid and to be paid were tabled and approved. Outstanding invoice to MacDougalls p\$8,303 has been queried, but no response as yet.

New Members: PGG Wrightson Water, Auckland Irrigation 2021 Ltd, Water Projects Ltd, Splash Water Specialists 2017 Ltd, Aqua Taranaki Ltd – Approved.

Withdrawn Members: Westland Milk Products, Central Milking & Pumping (been taken over by Moa Milking), Matamata Vets – no one doing machine testing. Rural Taranaki – merged with Aqua Taranaki.

Election of Office Bearers: Gary Reilly nominated & re-elected as President. Craig Burrows nominated and re-elected as Vice-President. Craig Burrows elected as Technical Committee Chairperson for Milking and Les Sinclair opted on to this committee. Ross Mugeridge elected as Technical Committee Chair for Water / Pumping.

Practising Certificate Approvals:

Doug Grant, Grant Engineering. Aidan Wright, Milking & Water Systems. Nathan Sinclair, Dairy & Pumps. Alex Jurica, Canterbury Farm Services. Matt Taylor, Southland Farm Services. Scott Balneaves, Dairytech South. Brent Robinson, Coastal Agri. Craig Uren, Nind Dairy Services. Stuart Babe, Beta Milking & Water Services. Jeff Evans, Jeff Evans Plumbing. Daniel Blacktopp, Dispatch & Garlic. Marc Ireland, Onsite Dairy Solutions. Karl Arras & Mark van de Klundert, Stocker Solutions. Ernie Blom, Hunts Farm Services. Andy Battison, DeLaval (Robots only) – Approved.

Skilled Water Tradespeople: An amended proposal for recognition of prior learning was tabled for approval in principal. It will be more of an interview process to establish the applicants knowledge in various areas. More work is required to finalise interview questions and to work through the logistics of how the assessment and application processes will be. E.O. & Ross Mugeridge to action.

Acceptable Solution for Rural Water Supplies: Proposed changes following submissions to the Acceptable Solutions for Rural Agricultural Water Supplies, Roof Water Supplies & Spring & Bore Supplies have been discussed with Reference Group. They include testing reporting requirements to be reduced – now every two weeks or monthly. The supply population numbers have been increased - now starting at 25 users of a single system. For supplies to less than 25 people there will be no requirement for reporting or to provide a Water Safety Plan, however, safe drinking water is still to be supplied.

H & S: Nothing to report.

Training Activity: 9 pax on April Testing course as one pulled out last minute with Covid, 12 pax on May Testing course. Milking Block course in March cancelled as only one registration. 9 on Pump Selection in CHC but only 5 on Farm Water Reticulation in CHC which resulted in a loss. 7 on Pump Selection in PMR and 7 on Farm Dairy Effluent in PMR. Numbers are looking stronger than past years as we try and get as many pprentices through as possible while the Government free funding is still available.

Apprenticeship Update: Official figures finally received from Competenz this week show 96 active apprentices (67 in Milking & 29 in Pumping) and 10 apprentices that have fully completed (7 in Milking & 3 in Pumping). Another promo to Members will be done once Government funding is clarified.

Plumbers Act Review: Nothing to report.

Relocating Training Centre to Hamilton: Gary Reilly questioned if our existing facility at Palmerston North is set up sufficiently and that it doesn't cater to the water training well. Should we consider other options and possibly relocating to Hamilton. Current lease at Palmerston North expires 31/05/2025. Ag Research at Tokanui or the DairyNZ Farm at Ruakura may be possible alternatives.

Milking Machine Standards Manual: Progress is underway with the development of a digital Testing Standards Manual tool and we should have a first draft to look at shortly.

New AutoRep App for ISO: Is now complete and has been launched with 91 Testers already set-up to use it. The majority were existing AutoRep Users and 7 new User Companies have signed on. There have been some teething issues with logging in and reporting and a lot of this has already been corrected. Other recommendations and a wish-list are being complied for a future update. Murray Pedley is investigating if the pulsation data from the Dairy Test Lite can be imported into the App.

ISO Testing: We now have 161 MPTA ISO Registered Testers, plus another 27 who have sent their first tests in for marking and need to submit some more and 10 that are waiting for their tests to be marked. There are 18 existing Testers who had registered for the ISO re-training but did not send any tests in for marking.

Meeting concluded: 10.50am

Next meeting date: tba in Hamilton

Signed

President.