



Eketāhuna Community Board

Minutes of a meeting of the Eketāhuna Community Board held in the Eketāhuna War Memorial Hall, corner of Jones Street and State Highway 2, Eketāhuna on Monday 14 July 2025 commencing at 10:00 am.

1. Present

Board Members: S C McGhie (Chairperson), L J Barclay, T M Carew (via Teams), and Cr M F Long

In Attendance

Her Worship the Mayor Mrs T H Collis
Cr S Gilmore

Ms F Chase	–	Facilities Manager (via Teams)
Mr D Erard	–	Alliance Manager
Mr A Desmond	–	Network Manager – Tararua Alliance
Ms P O’Neale-Searancke	–	Project Manager
Ms S Fountaine	–	Community Engagement Officer (via Teams)
Mrs A Dunn	–	Manager – Democracy Services (via Teams)
Mrs S Anthony	–	Democracy Support Officer

2. Apologies

That the apology from Board member Everlyne Chase be accepted, and leave of absence granted from the meeting.

Barclay/Long

Carried

3. Public Forum

Emma Elliot, Coordinator at Te Whatu Ora - Eketāhuna was in attendance and provided an update. She advised that her role currently encompasses financial administration. Eketāhuna Health Centre passed a recent audit and while they are yet to receive audit feedback from Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand, it was noted by auditors that the Centre provides an exceptional nursing service.

She spoke of the financial concerns experienced by the Health Centre. They consider the Eketāhuna Community Board to be a stakeholder to the Centre and invited the Board members to attend the AGM in September and noted that Board Member Chase is already involved as a Māori representative for the Centre and it was up to the Board whether she could also represent the Board at the same time.

She noted that the Health Centre filed a loss of \$11,000.00 in 2023, this was predominantly due to bringing nurses up to pay parity; 2024 showed a loss of \$15,000.00 mostly due to leave liability; understaffing has meant staff were unable to take leave and this then lifted to \$24,000.00. She spoke of success with fundraising efforts and donations for 2025, however the Centre will show a small deficit. The Centre is now looking at the budget for 2026 and forecasting that with the same level of fundraising, donations and grants they will be seeking close to \$10,000.00 and sought to apply to the Eketāhuna Community Board for a grant towards this.

During discussion the Board advised that the Eketāhuna Community Board General Assistance Grants Scheme was due to open following this meeting and encouraged the Eketāhuna Health Centre to apply via the Tararua District Council website.

4. Notification of Items Not on the Agenda

Nil

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

Nil

6. Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Community Board meeting held on 9 June 2025 (as circulated) be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Barclay/Long

Carried

7. Tararua District Council Report

7.1 Report from Tararua District Council

That the report from the Tararua District Council extraordinary meetings held 4 June 2025, and 11 June 2025, and meeting held 25 June 2025 be received.

Barclay/Long

Carried

8. Reports

8.1 Management Report

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 that provided an update on key activities and items of interest over the period 11 May 2025 to 6 June 2025 as reported to the meeting of the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee held 18 June 2025.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 concerning the Management Report be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.2 Universal Water Metering

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Project Manager dated 18 June 2025 that presented the case for implementing Universal Water Metering (UWM) across the Tararua District, outlining the project scope, and providing information regarding the delivery and procurement approach.

That the report from the Project Manager dated 18 June 2025 concerning the Universal Water Metering be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.3 Portfolio Programme Project Report

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 that provided an update on the key portfolios, programmes and project statuses as reported at the Infrastructure, Climate Change and Emergency Management Committee held 18 June 2025.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 26 June 2025 concerning the Portfolio Programme Project Report be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.4 Eketāhuna Litter Bin Service

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Democracy Support Officer dated 13 June 2025 providing background information regarding

the Eketāhuna litter bin service.

That the report from the Democracy Support Officer dated 13 June 2025 concerning the Eketāhuna Litter Bin Service be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

Board member Terry Carew left the meeting (via Teams) at 10.24am.

8.5 Eketāhuna Community Plan

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Community Engagement Officer dated 03 June 2025 that provided an update on the draft Eketāhuna Community Plan.

The Board advised that the Eketāhuna Community Plan was discussed with the Eketāhuna Our Town Committee and the draft is approved by the Board and the Committee for progression to the next stage of digitisation and placement on the TDC website.

That the report from the Community Engagement Officer dated 03 June 2025 concerning the draft Eketāhuna Community Plan be received

Long/Barclay

Carried

8.6 Discretionary Grant Fund Applications 2025

The Eketāhuna Community Board considered the report of the Manager – Democracy Services dated 17 June 2025 that sought a decision by the Board to advertise the availability of its General Assistance Grants scheme and invite applications for funding from the community.

That the report from the Manager - Democracy Services dated 17 June 2025 concerning the Discretionary Grant Fund Applications 2025 be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

That the Eketāhuna Community Board advertises the availability of the General Assistance Grants scheme for 2025 and invites applications for funding.

Long/Barclay

Carried

That the closing date for applications be 22 August 2025

Barclay/Long

Carried

9. Reports from Board Representatives Appointed to Organisations and Assigned Responsibilities

Nil

10. Correspondence

10.1 Minutes - Eketāhuna Radio Station 22 May 2025

Board member Barclay advised that the radio station is going well; they were no longer experiencing lagging in broadcasting and fundraising is ongoing. They have new team members on board and overall operations are positive.

That the minutes of the Eketāhuna Radio Station meeting held 22 May 2025 be received.

Long/Barclay

Carried

11. Discussion Items

Eketāhuna Main Street Maintenance – Dan Erard, Alliance Manager, was in attendance and provided an update to the Board noting that the sweep truck services Eketāhuna every 2 months with work undertaken in February, April and June 2025. He advised that a worker goes ahead of the sweep truck and pulls material from areas that the sweep truck is unable to access, they also check sump conditions, grates, and carry out general inspections.

A concern was raised regarding the debris remains left in Church Street and it was advised that this feedback would be investigated. The Board were encouraged to put in CRMs as this helps to notify relevant teams.

It was advised that footpath maintenance and cleaning currently has no routine schedule due to a significantly reduced budget received for footpaths, so the main priority is safety repairs and CRMs will be responded to.

It was noted that Corrections have undertaken some footpath clearing of overgrowth in Newman Road.

It was reported that the covered drain outside the Four Square in Eketāhuna required attention as the cover is not big enough and bark from the garden is getting into it; this is an area of high public use and noticeable. It was also noted that school bus signs in the area that were recently placed are falling over, and potholes have emerged on Bridge Street and Main Street through to Nireaha turn

off. These concerns were noted by the Alliance Manager, and the Board were again advised to submit CRMs.

12. Chairperson's Remarks

Nil

13. Items not on the Agenda

Nil

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 10:42am.

Chairperson