

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of  
Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau Trust and  
Rangitāne o Wairau Settlement Trust  
held on Saturday 27 January 2024, 11:00am  
Ūkaipō, Grovetown, Blenheim**



**PRESENT:**

**Trustees:** Calvin Hart (Co-Chairperson), Janis de Thierry (Co-Chairperson), Haysley MacDonald, Peter Meihana, Riki Palatchie, Keelan Walker

**Directors:** Leigh MacDonald (Chairperson), David Jessep, Leighton Evans

**Present:** Kevin Wayne Abbott, Lauree Ashworth, Phillippia Avery, Kuia Carey, Shona Crafar, Anthony de Thierry, Rinapuhupuhi de Thierry-Lukitau, Elsie Elkington, Mandy Fryer, Lyn Waitapu Fryer, John Gardiner, Sam Giddens, Animoa Goold, Wayne Green, Maureen Green, Donna Green, Lisa Hart, Wanda Heberd, Derek Heberd, Sharee Heberd, Ronette Heiford, Dennis Heiford, Wendy Hynes, Sydney Hynes, Te Matahiapo (Safari) Hynes, Amiria Hynes, Edna Jefford, Geoff Jefford, Lesley Jones, Tina Joseph, Alana Karena, Gabrielle Kinnell-Hart, Frances Knight, Hine Luke, Jazmine MacDonald, Rua MacDonald, Dayna MacDonald, Leela Macdonald, Luckie Macdonald, Malcolm MacDonald, Tom MacDonald, Hannah MacDonald, Tui MacDonald, Ani MacDonald, Tony Macdonald, Georgia Macdonald, Holly Macdonald, Errol MacDonald, Francis MacDonald, Liana MacDonald, Risman MacDonald, Tarina MacDonald, Lawrence MacDonald, Garry MacDonald, Hoani MacDonald, Moana MacDonald, Robin MacDonald, Kaye MacDonald, Judith MacDonald, Jane MacDonald-Tibble, Erica Mason, Lee Mason, Julia Mason, Eadie Mason, Sally McAllister, Liz McElhinney, Rain McDonald, Connie McDonald, Kelly McDonald-Beckett, Gemma McKinney, Lina Pale, Malia Pale, Ponui Patuaka, Peter Raper, Pikihuia Reihana, Nicky Renwick, Brya Roussel, Frances Seng, Rosemary Shallcrass, Lisa Singh, Kylie-Mae Smith, Amy Smith, Elena Smith, Catherine Smythe, Francis (Dolly) Stretch, Ihaia Stretch, Shannara Thwaites, Te Ata Tuhimata, Viveyan Tuhimata, Martin Tupara, Tui Twose, Gary Twose, Peter Williams, Elaine Wilson

**Live Stream:** Amelia Hollman, Ranae Niven, Diane Taylor

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Kaimahi:** Corey Heberd (Kaiwhakahaere Matua), Jude Spencer (Board Secretary), Kereana Norton (Kaikōkiri Kaupapa Ahurea), Jodie Palatchie (Pou Whakapā), Janelle Saunders (Kaikōkiri Whakahaere), Will Macdonald (Kaiwhakahaere Rawa me ngā Kaupapa), Taylah Leger-MacDonald (Kaikōkiri Ratonga Mema), Erina Macdonald (Whānau Ora Navigator)

**electionz.com:** Isiah Roberts

**Silks Audit:** Sarah Jenkins (online)

**Wallace Diack:** Tony De Reeper

**1. OPENING KARAKIA/MIHIMIHI:**

The AGM began with a tribute to members who have passed away during the past year. Riki Palatchie opened the hui with karakia, which was followed by waiata.

The Trustees, Directors and Advisors introduced themselves to meeting attendees and Kaiwhakahaere Matua Corey Heberd introduced kaimahi in attendance. He addressed health and safety and general housekeeping and Trust Co-Chairperson Janis de Thierry outlined the purpose and kaupapa of the AGM.

## 2. APOLOGIES

The following apologies were received and accepted:

Daedae de Thierry, Kōwhai de Thierry, Pharoah Wayne de Thierry, Waimarie Drummond, Lorraine Eade, Mere Grey-Schumer, Ken Hart, Marge Heberd, Jess Hill, Sean Luke, Kisean Luke, Wirihana Lukitau, Carol MacDonald, Chris MacDonald, Taane MacDonald, Anaru MacDonald, Steve MacDonald, Reea MacDonald, Nik MacDonald-Washburn, Paora Mackie, Maree McDonald, Jackie McDonald, Jhonte McFadyen-MacDonald, Sally Neal, Miriam Radich, Eri Reddington, Fin Reddington, Damian Reddington, Aroha Reihana, Hinemoa Reihana, Arama Reihana, Hemaima Reihana-Tait, Ripeka Reihana-Turnbull, Waimarie Drummond, Marie Rhodes, Charlotte Rhodes, Rex Rodley, Suz Tawaka, Georgia Ternent, Chad Ternent, Cruz Tuhimata, Wiremu Tuhimata, Chyna Tuhimata, Manaaki Tuhimata

**MOTION 1:** That the apologies be received and accepted.

**Moved:** Tony Macdonald

**Seconded:** Mandy Fryer

**Carried:** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 3. OVERVIEW OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FORMAT (PURPOSE)

Trust Co-Chairperson Calvin Hart gave an overview of the Group structure and the agenda for the Annual General Meeting. He advised that agenda items for the Settlement Trust AGM would be deferred to the Trust AGM due to the consolidation of annual reporting and planning.

**MOTION 2:** Due to the consolidation of annual reporting and planning in the Annual Report, and to avoid duplication, all \* agenda items be deferred to and included in the AGM for Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau Trust; and that the Annual General Meeting for Rangitāne o Wairau Settlement Trust be declared closed.

**Moved:** Liz McElhinney

**Seconded:** Dayna MacDonald

**Carried:** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*The Annual General Meeting of the Rangitāne o Wairau Settlement Trust was closed and the Annual General Meeting of Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau Trust was opened.*

## 4. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2023

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21 January 2023 have been available online and were also circulated to members upon arrival.

**MOTION 3:** That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21 January 2023 be accepted as a true and correct record of proceedings.

**Moved:** Viveyan Tuhimata

**Seconded:** Francis MacDonald

**Carried:** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### 4.1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 21 JANUARY 2023

Nil

### 5. ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2023

The Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2023 was tabled and taken as read. The Annual Report included:

- Co-Chairpersons' Report
- Company Chairperson's Report
- General Manager's Report
- Mana Tangata
- Mana Ahurea
- Mana Taiao
- Mana Tahua
- Key Performance Information
- Auditor's Report
- Summary Group Financial Results

#### Financial Management

Dave Jessep spoke on behalf of the **Audit and Risk Committee (ARCC)** and welcomed Tony de Reeper and Wallace Diack as the new accountants for the Rangitāne o Wairau Group. He provided an overview of asset growth since settlement which put net assets at \$87.5m.

Tony de Reeper spoke on behalf of **Wallace Diack** and provided an overview of the financial performance of the Group. He noted the net loss of \$1.3m was largely due to property revaluations, which did not indicate a loss on the actual activity of the business.

Highlights included:

- Total Comprehensive Revenue & Expense decreased to -\$1.3m (last year \$7.8m)
- Property investments had revaluation impairment of -\$3.3m (\$3.9m last year)
- Non-property investments had revaluation increases of \$2.3m (+\$3m last year)
- Operating surplus decreased to \$1.5m (\$2.3m last year). Normalised from one-off gains reported last year and a return to a 12-month reporting period
- Distribution from RIL to the Trust of \$1.5m (\$1.7m last year)
- Record investment in tribal activities for whānau, with Programme Expenses rising to \$257k (\$216k last year)
- Total Assets for the year totalled \$92.17m (\$92.10m last year)
- Total Liabilities for the year totalled \$4.7m (\$3.3m last year)
- \$2.5m loan unchanged from previous year
- Investment properties impaired by a \$3.3m revaluation
- Total Group Equity fell by 1.5% to \$87.5m (\$88.8m last year)

Dave Jessep spoke on behalf of **Silks Audit** (due to technical issues preventing Silks Audit from being able to present to the AGM) and noted highlights which included:

- Silks delivered unqualified opinions on all the accounts and no specific additional audit work was undertaken. There were no critical findings and no unadjusted differences.
- Auditors focused on the following significant areas:
  - Revenue recognition

- Statement of Service Performance
- Investment existence and valuation
- Investment property valuation

## Strategic Plan

Janis de Thierry introduced the strategic plan video which summarised the results of the strategic planning work started five years ago. The video explained what guided the Group's operational and strategic decision making, set out its planning objectives and provided the framework reported on in the Annual Report.

Annual Report key highlights were addressed:

- **Mana Motuhake (presented by Janis de Thierry, Keelan Walker and Peter Meihana)**
  - Te Kotahi o Te Taihū Charitable Trust has continued to support whānau in Te Taihū
  - Launch of *Ngā Tapuāe o Rangitāne*, a video series telling Rangitāne stories across the rohe. The stories tell how Rangitāne came to be here, helping to give whānau a better sense of where they belong.
  - Engaged in legal action concerning the rights and interests of Rangitāne on the East Coast of Te Waipounamu (High Court action taken regarding two whale jawbones and the East Coast Beach Vehicle Bylaw). The jawbone proceedings will likely return to the High Court and the East Coast matter is due to be heard in March.
  - Kōrero with Ngāti Kuri saw Kaumātua engaged in discussions and drawing on their shared history. Although the matter would return to the High Court, there was a mutual desire to work better together.
  - The *Together Te Taihū* agreement signed in December saw robust discussion amongst the Trust and on the opinions and history of other iwi.
  - Work is continuing with Otago University on repatriation material ready to be returned to the Wairau which needs a storage space. Also discussing a project on moa hunting practices.
  - The meeting watched a video of Israel Birch installations in Rangitāne House lobby which came out of a project with NIWA and showed artworks inspired by diatom images from Dr Darren King's research.
- **Mana Tangata (presented by Calvin Hart)**
  - Kaumātua – whakawhanaungatanga and events.
  - Rangatahi – Taiohi Tangata Marae.
  - Whānau
    - 42 customary fisheries permits – need to encourage young people to go fishing
    - Membership growth of 345 members
    - Lower North Island Maara Kai project
    - Whānau Christmas events (Wairau and Horowhenua)
    - Pukatea Whānau Day
  - Acknowledged Kaikōkiri.
  - Mātauranga - 384 tamariki supported through Poroiwi Education Grant (total \$28,800) and 45 scholarships provided to tauira (total \$48,550).
  - Kia wetewetea, ko Māui ahaui! Education Symposium. Three (Kurahaupō) keynote speakers with around 1,000 teachers attending.
  - Hauora – 40 successful Pūtea Tautoko grant applications and IMPB Te Kāhui Hauora o Te Taihū established.
  - Takahi Whenua – 11 PADI Freedive Scholarships awarded to whānau, upkeep of maara kai and fresh kai grown at Tuamātene.

- **Mana Taiao (presented by Riki Palatchie)**
  - Involvement in key projects including Te Hoiere Restoration Project, Te Mana o Te Wai Te Tauihu Project Group, Resource Management Act Reform Programme, review of Marlborough resource consent applications, Kotahitanga mō te Taiao Alliance, Three Waters Reform programme, Grovetown Lagoons Restoration Project, Conservation Management Plan for Te Pokohiwi-o-Kupe, proposed East Coast Bylaw, cultural mapping.
  - Haysley MacDonald described the poor state of the fishery and encouraged whānau to channel any feedback through permit issuers.
  - Recreational and commercial fishing were causing problems rather than customary fishing. It was agreed that customary fishing did not need to be just for a significant event but also to feed whānau.
  - Tarina MacDonald asked for a guarantee that the Trust was preserving their customary rights and prioritising this against commercial rights.
  - It was advised Rangitāne fought hard to maintain its position and ensure permits were never taken away. Something needed to be done, but it was difficult to get a meeting with the Minister. It was suggested the permit system needed to be better promoted amongst iwi to get higher uptake of permits.
  
- **Mana Ahurea (presented by Janis de Thierry)**
  - The cultural kaupapa for Rangitāne was driven by the strategic plan. It was advised Rangitāne was the only iwi that opened opportunities to the region to participate in its kaupapa.
  - Key events included Wānanga Ahurea across the motu, Kura Reo, Te Kaiaotanga o Te Reo (Wairau and Whakatū), representation at local events and kaumātua interviews
  - The Matariki celebrations had been held at the Wairau Bar for a long time and members watched a video on recent celebrations.
  
- **Mana Tahua (presented by Leigh MacDonald)**
  - Judith MacDonald was acknowledged for her mahi on the Commercial Board which she had sat on for three terms.
  - It was advised there was a profit in 2023 despite challenges such as inflation and commodities.
  - While the property portfolio declined in value, this was a “paper loss” and the properties would continue to provide a stable income.
  - The portfolio was moving towards a long-term target and balance but will focus on investment in growth assets to deliver higher cash returns.
  - Cultural designs included in Horton Street winery to reflect Rangitāne ownership
  - Noted change to reporting dates which skewed the year-on-year financial results.
  - The increase in liabilities was a result of the drawdown on the bank loan discussed in previous years.
  - Looking ahead, the Wairau Hospital Residential Housing Development would be evenly split across rentals, affordable housing and open market sales. Registrations of interest were now being accepted.
  - Ka Uruora had helped iwi members get access to housing and there were four whānau in rental space at the Moroki development in Tāmaki Makaurau.
  - It was noted allocations for the Wairau Hospital development would not be based on iwi membership but on opportunities and interest.
  - It was asked if there could be a te reo speaking whare which could help bolster language revitalisation. This will be added into the considerations for the project.

- **Te Tari (presented by Corey Hebbard)**
  - Acknowledgement of kaikokiri, kaimahi and the work carried out by representatives on various Kōmiti and agencies.
  - Highlights
    - Mātauranga has been a focus with increased scholarships and back to school grants. This was a direct result of the Directors increasing funds for distribution
    - Government changes had impacted the small team across resource management, water and health activities
    - Trust Deed review
    - Blenheim Sewage Treatment Plant consent
    - Ongoing RNZAF Base Woodbourne negotiations
    - Mātauranga Strategy
    - Rising Tides research project
    - Te Pokohiwi o Kupe – Cultural Mapping and Values Project funding secured
    - Te Pokohiwi o Kupe – Conservation Management Plan progress
    - Together Te Taiuhu agreement between eight iwi and three councils
  - Opportunities and Challenges
    - Resourcing the strategic plan
    - Continued change to Government policy, particularly with the new Coalition Government
    - Availability, and sometimes lack, of Rangitāne cultural practitioners residing in Te Taiuhu
    - Overlapping interests with other iwi
    - Negotiations with the Crown regarding RNZAF Base Woodbourne

**MOTION 4:** That the Annual Report for the 12 months ending 30 June 2023 be received and accepted

**Moved:** Janis de Thierry

**Seconded:** Shona Crafar

**Carried:** **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Kaiwhakahaere Matua Corey Hebbard launched the Rangitāne o Wairau Education Strategy, *Ara Rau, Wawata Kotahi* and copies were distributed by kaimahi to those in attendance at the hui.
- Pikihuia Reihana thanked the Trust for providing pūtea to support a whānau reunion which resulted in a whakapapa book named for grandmother Rawinia Rakapa Tutaki being gifted to Rangitāne.
- It was advised work on the Taiao framework would be paused until the progress of the RMA changes became clearer.
- There was further kōrero on the RNZAF Base Woodbourne negotiations which still required Kurahaupō iwi to come to an agreed position before discussions would continue with the Crown in June 2024.
- It was advised a te reo Māori radio station had previously been discussed by the eight iwi and set aside as being cost prohibitive for the time being and that other mediums of communications would be considered.
- Co-Chairperson Janis de Thierry reported on Rangitāne attendance at the Kingi Tuheitia hui-ā-motu and advised Rangitāne would vigorously oppose any actions that threatened the

Rangitāne settlement. Work would continue strengthening whānau with knowledge, especially tamariki.

- Te Matahiapo (Safari) Hynes advised there was a new Level 2 certificate in Tikanga Māori available to study.
- There was a request for Rangitāne to become more involved in the Stewart Island Rakiura Toitōi block proceedings. Kaiwhakahaere Matua will follow up, but noted it was a whānau claim.
- There was a suggestion that taonga should be worn rather than locking it away, for example, awarding taonga at graduations.

## **7. TRUSTEE ELECTION RESULTS**

Isiah Roberts of electionz.com declared the following result:

### **Two Ordinary Vacancies (3 Years)**

- Peter MEIHANA
- Judith MACDONALD

Tony Macdonald was the highest polling unsuccessful candidate.

### **Special Resolution**

The special resolution on proposed amendments to the Trust Deeds was carried with 91.3% support.

The voter return was 18.82%, being 591 votes received from 3,140 verified members, of whom 61.25% voted online and 38.75% voted by post or at the AGM.

Janis de Thierry acknowledged outgoing Trustee Riki Palatchie and recognised his mahi for the Trust. Riki Palatchie congratulated the incoming Trustees and acknowledged the Kaiwhakahaere Matua and kaimahi for their work for the iwi.

## **8. CLOSING OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Janis de Thierry closed the Annual General Meeting and Safari Te Matahiapo Hynes finished with a karakia at 13:58pm

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**Co-Chairpersons**

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**Date**