

Minutes of NZMPTA Council Meeting
13th December 2023 @ 10.30am
GEA Hamilton

Present: Ross Mugeridge, Trevor Fowlie, Les Sinclair, Nick Bell, Craig Burrows, Trevor Foley, Gary Reilly, Marty Bloy, Craig Russell & Executive Officer, Maria Scott.

Apologies: Paul Dixon, Darren Main, Kevin Warner

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 \$114,601.03

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

New Members: Waterforce Ltd – Approved.

Practising Certificate Approvals:

Doug Grant, Grant Engineering. Riley Smith, Progressive Engineering. Martin Baldwin, Machinery Maintenance. Martin Saunders, Morrison Agri. Ryno Laing, Northland Milking Systems. Darryl Walter, Southland Farm Services. Mathew Read, Read Industrial. Shane Newton, Independent Tester - Approved.

Council Structure: Two new representatives have been appointed to Council: Craig Russell from White International and Marty Bloy from 43 South.

H & S: Nothing to report.

Training Activity: November Testing course cancelled as only had 4 confirmed. 6 on Milking Block, 9 on Hamilton Small Drinking Water Supplies. Farm Water Reticulation & Farm Dairy Effluent courses in South Island & Farm Dairy Effluent in Hamilton all cancelled due to lack of registrations. 2024 course dates have been set.

Apprenticeship Survey: A survey to apprentice employers has been undertaken to gauge the success and challenges of the apprenticeship. Disappointingly, only 16/70 employers responded. Feedback indicated that: Competenz are not performing to expectations, the majority of withdrawals were because the apprentice left their employment or that Competenz withdrew them due to lack of progress. The biggest challenges are the apprentice not being motivated to do the work on their own and being too busy to do the theory work. Competenz performance is perceived as average or below. The apprenticeship is only meeting expectation of 50% of employer respondents.

Apprenticeship Marketing Campaign: The marketing campaign to promote awareness on the Apprenticeship is due to finish on 31/12/23, however, it was agreed to continue this for a further two months. To date our spend of \$2,767.13 has had over 637k impressions and generated 62 leads, all of which have been followed up. 12 CVs have been received and will be distributed to Members early in the New Year for them to consider for employment. E.O. to send the collateral material promoting the apprenticeship out to Members for them to share with clients or use in their own advertising.

Competenz Contract: Competenz / Te Pukenga have advised that they will not enter into a Contract for Service for 2024 directly with MPTA as they have done previously as MPTA is not an approved NZQA provider. They will need to enter into a contract with QCONZ who are the NZQA approved PTE to deliver our NZQA related courses. Tyree from QCONZ has advised she is not interested in being a sub-contractor to Competenz. The terms they are proposing includes them having IP of the course materials and they are expecting a reduction in our course fees. We have requested Competenz to reconsider and get approval to continue along the terms of our existing contract.

Website Update: Our existing website is now 8 years old and it is dated. It still functions as needed, however, the backend could be a potential security risk for Members. Website Angels have quoted \$17k or \$24k (dependent on what system we may chose) for a functional re-build / re-design. The proposal was considered but declined as it is considered that the existing website and backend functionality is meeting our needs and so an upgrade it is not a priority for now.

Machine Testing training in Australia: We have received an enquiry from Damian Loomans of South West Dairy Services in Victoria, Australia to get his staff trained in Milking Machine Testing. This could be in either NZ or in Australia. Some staff have done the TAFE course in Australia previously but this has been dis-established and there is no other training available. He has 24 staff, mostly experienced & they service 600 dairies, conventional and robots, in the Warrnambool area. They are happy to become Members of MPTA if necessary. There could be scope to deliver to wider audience in Australia. Gary Reilly to contact him to discuss options. Ph. +61455737337 damian@swdairyservices.com.au.

AutoRep Annual charges: New annual charges of \$250 for a single user, \$350 for 2-4 users & \$500 for 5+ users have been advised to Members. Feedback was received from two Members opposing the charges, one citing the single user amount vs the multiple user amount as being unfair, and the other implying that we make enough money that we should be able to absorb these costs without on-charging to users. Discussion resulted in the fees to stand as advised.

Electrical Pathway: Nothing to report.

Small Drinking Water Supplies update: Re-write of course material is complete. Cost was \$5,040 + gst.

Growth for Pumping Sector: Discussion took place about expanding more into the Pumping sector and how we can drive this to market, new potential Members and training participants. A working committee will be set up utilising Marty Bloy, Nick Bell, Craig Russell & Ross Muggeridge to consider pathways and growth opportunities around where do we want to be in 5 years.

Relocation of Training Premises: Existing Training Centre lease expires on 31 May 2025, so it is timely to reconsider options for future growth and facility needs i.e. adding a pumping / water quality tech room, training facility we could lease out when it is not being used etc.

Pumping Systems Technician Certification: Further in-depth discussion took place about the content for our proposed Pumping Systems Technician Certificate and it was suggested that further definition on the overall purpose of the Certification should be thought through, along with the level of skill applicants need to demonstrate before being awarded the Certification. Craig Russell is to give it more thought and make further

comment to Council for consideration. In the meantime, planned launch needs to be postponed.

Effluent WOF Programme: this is again available for consideration of if we want to administer it. Trevor Foley will invite Dairy NZ contacts to next meeting to discuss process.

Smart Standards App: One of our Members will trial before releasing the App.

Meeting concluded: 3.45pm

Signed

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

Gary Reilly, President.