

**Minutes of NZMPTA Council Meeting
26th January 2023 @ 8.30am
Via TEAMS online**

Present: Gary Reilly, Ross Muggeridge, Trevor Fowlie, Andy Geissmann Trevor Foley, Craig Burrows & Maria Scott.

Apologies: Kevin Warner, Darren Main & Paul Dixon

Acknowledgement of passing of Life Member and Council Member, Brian Ebert who passed away on 23rd January 2023. A moments silence was observed and it was agreed that MPTA shall make a donation of \$200 to St. John's Ambulance Service in memory of Brian. Maria will attend funeral to represent MPTA.

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

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes: Research into industry charge out rates & investigation into possible new premises for training facility in the Waikato yet to be actioned.

Financial Statement: presented and accepted. Approx. combined net position \$259,543

Accounts for Payment: Accounts previously paid and to be paid were tabled and approved.

New Members: Milking Machine Testing Services, Hamilton. MicroPico Systems Ltd, Galatea. Waihi Farm & Industrial Services 2022 Ltd, The Dairy Vet Ltd, Palmerston North – Approved.

Withdrawn Members: Stevens Filterite – taken over by existing Members Skellerup. Vetent – not doing machine tests anymore.

Practising Certificate Approvals:

Brandon Norman, Qubik. Ryan Anselmi, Landmore Agri. Ryan Moffitt, Pump & Electrical. Shaun Dyer, Dairymaster Milking. Garry Box, Boxy's Milking Machine Testing – Approved.

H & S: Nothing to report.

Training Activity: February & March 2023 testing courses are already full & we are now taking registrations for May. Training Centre is being spring-cleaned before first course starts on 20/2/23.

Apprenticeship update: The Government Fees Free funding for apprentices ceased on 31/12/22. However, the previous TTAF scheme has been reinstated which covers fees up to \$12,000 over two years for eligible learners who have not done tertiary study totalling more than 61 credits at Level 3 (or equivalent) since leaving school. Many of our apprentices attended the required training in 2022 so numbers will be lighter in 2023.

Development of NZQA Micro-credential qualifications: Tyree Connor from QCONZ has submitted our first proposed micro-credential qualification to the Workforce Development Council (WDC) who have provided feedback for further action. This is the qualification for our Pump Selection units that will be used in our Pumping Systems Technician Certification that we are wanting to launch.

Pumping Systems Technician Certification: Approval and development of the relative micro-credential as mentioned above is pending for units 29158 & 29163. Maria & Ross to meet to firm up the process for application once the micro-credential qualification is approved by NZQA so we can launch asap.

Acquiring Small Drinking Water Supplies course material: The full course material has been received, QCONZ have perused the material and have suggested that it needs updating and rebranding. QCONZ have put forward Geoff Dawson from Inaqua as the new facilitator to deliver this course and he will also train up additional facilitators from QCONZ. Geoff has some suggestions for updating the material and QCONZ will work on this before the first course scheduled in April.

Length of Water Courses & course pricing: To allow participants more opportunity to complete the required assignments while on course, the Farm Water Reticulation Design and Farm Dairy Effluent Hydraulic Design courses will be lengthened to 4 days which requires the price to be increased from \$1,100 to \$1,400. The Small Drinking Water Supplies course will be extended to three days and the price will increase from \$800 to \$1,100. The Pump Selection course will remain at two days, however, the price will increase from \$800 to \$1,000. Price increases reflect the new facilitator per day rate agreed with QCONZ and the additional costs related with adding an extra day to the courses.

Water Services Act 2021: A guidance communication was emailed to all Members on 21/12/22 detailing some of the requirements under the Water Services Act 2021 with specific focus on small drinking water supplies within the rural sector.

Digital Milking Machine Standards Manual: Is completed and out for testing by some users before it can be released. Invoice for quoted cost of \$27,500.00 + gst has been received.

AutoRep Updates: A query was raised as to if every field on the Testing Record and the Visual Faults Checklist can be made compulsory to complete with either a tick, a cross or as N/A. This is not overly practical, however, an option could be to add a declaration at the end of the Visual Faults form where the tester signs-off that they've checked all the relevant machinery components – this was agreed on and Maria will advise QCONZ to implement.

AGM: Date has been set for 30th March 2023 in Hamilton: Council Nominations will be called for. Annual Accounts are currently with the Accountants.

Meeting concluded: 9.30am

Signed

President.