

RELEASE OF INFORMATION

The attached decision/information was previously included in a confidential agenda/minutes for the Tasman District Council meeting on 09 December 2022.

The reasons for withholding the information no longer apply, the information is therefore being made publicly available.

Moved Councillor Maling/Councillor Dowler

CN22-12-1

That the Tasman District Council:

- 1. receives the Appointment of Director, Waimea Water Limited report RCN22-12-18; and**
- 2. approves the appointment of Mr Graeme Christie to the Board of Waimea Water Ltd for a three-year term; and**
- 3. requests that staff advise Intepeople, Mr Christie and the Board of Waimea Water Ltd and Waimea Irrigators Limited of the outcome of the appointment decision.**
- 4. agrees that the report and decision be publicly released but that the attachment remains confidential.**

CARRIED

9.2 APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR, WAIMEA WATER LIMITED - CONFIDENTIAL**Decision Required****Report To:** Tasman District Council**Meeting Date:** 9 December 2022**Report Author:** Tim King, Mayor**Report Number:** RCN22-12-18

This report is confidential in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (s7(2)(a)) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report recommends the appointment of Mr Graeme Christie as a Director of Waimea Water Limited filling the vacancy resulting from Ken Smales' resignation earlier this year.
- 1.2 An appointment panel of Waimea Water Ltd Chairman, David Wright and I met in November 2022 to interview the three short-listed candidates.
- 1.3 Following the interviews and a reference and background check, the preferred candidate – Mr Christie – is recommended to the Council as the new Director of Waimea Water Ltd.
- 1.4 The Annual General meeting of Waimea Water Ltd will be held on 16 December 2022 so a special Council meeting was required to appoint the preferred candidate in time for that meeting.
- 1.5 The Council is requested to approve this appointment.

2 Draft Resolution

That the Tasman District Council:

- 1. receives the Appointment of Director, Waimea Water Limited report RCN22-12-18; and**
- 2. approves the appointment of Mr Graeme Christie to the Board of Waimea Water Ltd for a three-year term; and**
- 3. requests that staff advise Intepeople, Mr Christie and the Board of Waimea Water Ltd and Waimea Irrigators Limited of the outcome of the appointment decision.**
- 4. agrees that the report and decision be publicly released but that the attachment remains confidential.**

Council Meeting - 9 December 2022

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR, WAIMEA WATER LIMITED**3 Purpose of the Report**

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend the appointment of Mr Graeme Christie to the Waimea Water Limited Board of Directors.

4 Background and Discussion

- 4.1 Tasman District Council has four Directors appointed to the Board of Waimea Water Limited. These Directors are charged with managing the Council's interests in the building and ongoing operation of the Waimea Community Dam.
- 4.2 There is one vacancy following the resignation of Ken Smales. At the 22 September 2022 Council meeting it was resolved that:
- notes that staff will present a report to the Council in the new triennium recommending a replacement Director to cover the Council's vacancy on the Waimea Water Limited Board;***
- 4.3 Along with Waimea Water Ltd Chairman, David Wright, I interviewed the short-listed candidates in November 2022.
- 4.4 From those interviews, the preferred candidate, Mr Graeme Christie was identified.
- 4.5 While Mr Christie has limited professional governance experience he has worked alongside many boards and has extremely valuable legal, contractual and construction skills that I believe would be of benefit to Waimea Water Ltd. He also has a number of contacts and connections which would be useful to Waimea Water Limited. Mr Christie's Candidate Report, completed by Intepeople, outlines his experience at both the governance and executive levels (**Attachment 1**).
- 4.6 The Annual General meeting of Waimea Water Ltd will be held on 16 December 2022 so a special Council meeting is required to appoint the preferred candidate in time for that meeting.

5 Options

- 5.1 **Option 1 (Recommended option).** The Council approves the appointment of the recommended candidate, Mr Christie as a Director of Waimea Water Ltd.
- i. Appointing the recommended candidate acknowledges the skills and opinions of the appointment panel.
- 5.2 **Option 2.** The Council chooses not to appoint the recommended candidate should it have serious concerns about the candidate's ability to perform the duties and responsibilities of the role, or about the selection process.

- ii. This option will result in the need to re-advertise and interview for an alternative candidate, incurring additional recruitment costs.
- iii. This option signals a lack of trust in the robust selection process agreed by the Council and supported by the Waimea Water Limited Board.

6 Strategy and Risks

- 6.1 The recruitment and appointment of directors is a relatively routine matter. The Council's strategy is focused on ensuring that the Waimea Water Limited Board has the right skills mix and personalities at the table. To achieve this and mitigate the risk of an ineffective placement, the appointment panel followed a robust process to determine the skills and attributes of the replacement Director and used an external recruitment company.

7 Policy / Legal Requirements / Plan

- 7.1 The appointment panel has applied the criteria for selection and assessed the qualities of the candidates in arriving at their recommendation.

8 Consideration of Financial or Budgetary Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial or budgetary implications for the Council in the decision to appoint a replacement Director. The recruitment costs are met from existing budgets.
- 8.2 The remuneration of Directors is a company matter and Director's remuneration is met by the Company. The successful appointee will be remunerated by the Company in accordance with the current Directors' fee structure.

9 Significance and Engagement

- 9.1 This decision is of low significance, where the public may be interested in the outcome of the process, however it is not likely to be controversial and no formal engagement is necessary.

10 Conclusion

- 10.1 An appropriate and robust recruitment process has been followed. The appointment panel has assessed the candidates and recommends that Mr Christie be appointed to the Board. Approving the appointment would be an appropriate decision.

11 Next Steps / Timeline

- 11.1 If the Council agrees to the appointment of Mr Christie to the Waimea Water Limited Board, staff will ask Intepeople to confirm Mr Christie's acceptance of the position.

- 11.2 The Mayor will write to the Waimea Water Limited Board Directors advising them of Mr Christie's appointment and asking them to make contact with him regarding his induction into the Board meetings and processes.
- 11.3 Mr Christie will be introduced to the Council at a future meeting when it is convenient for all parties.
- 11.4 The decision and the report will be made publicly available. However, the attachment will remain confidential.