

# NGĀTI KURI TRUST BOARD AGM

**Venue:** Waiora Marae, Ngataki

**Date:** March 23rd 2013.

**Time:** 10.30am.

Attendance as per attendance list:

**Karakia:** Whare Mehana

**Mihi;** Bob Wells, Bundy Waitai, Karaka Roberts, Mai Te Ngara

Emily Morris read out the kawa of the Marae and asked everyone to abide by the kaupapa. The Chairman, Harry Burkhardt, opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance today. He went on to say that in the spirit of being open and transparent he would declare a defamation order that he has filed against Reece Burgoyne. He went on to insist that although everyone was welcome to be part of the meeting, that every person in attendance should respect the mana of Ngāti Kuri and of one another.

**1.0 Apologies:** Dave and Josephine Neho, Karen Karaka, Ben Waitai, Tom Petricevich, Wayne Evans and Jewel Sucich. An apology was put forward for the Mann family and an acknowledgment regarding the passing of one of their mokopuna that morning.

**1.1 Motion: That these apologies be accepted.**

**Moved: Whiti Mehana      Seconded: Lillian Karaka      Motion carried.**

## **Obituaries:**

Harry explained that the list of obituaries is not a comprehensive list, but one that is derived from who is acknowledged at the monthly Board Meetings. However, offered his condolences to all Ngāti Kuri who have had bereavements. Whare Mehana said a prayer and spoke. There followed a minute silence.

**2.0 Minutes:** Copies were mailed to beneficiaries prior to the meeting. Harry also informed the crowd that there were copies also available for anyone who had not received a copy.

**2.1 Motion: That the minutes of the AGM of 2011 be taken as a true and correct record of that meeting.**

**Moved: Tamati      Seconded: Merereina      Motion carried.**

**2.2 Matters arising from the minutes:** There were no matters arising.

## **3.0 Chairman's Report:**

**(a)** Harry began by acknowledging the input of the new Board members Lillian and Donna and also welcomed Sheridan as a newly elected Trustee. Sid Waitai spoke to say how proud they were that Sheridan was a Trustee. Harry went on to acknowledge that Catherine had stepped down as a Trustee in order to concentrate on Te Rarawa business. He acknowledged her and thanked her for the work she has done diligently for the Board. It was also noted that Catherine would retain her position as a Negotiator for Ngāti Kuri for their Treat Settlement. He outlined that there had been

five Negotiators. He acknowledged the great contribution of Alice Palmer, who has since passed away.

(b) Everyone present was given an assurance that the Discretionary and Education Funding was being used as carefully as possible. He said that the Board has a clear sense of how the money was being spent.

(c) Merereina questioned how much information is dependent on website access. Harry assured all present that the Board and office wished to ensure appropriate communication, and would be as conscientious as possible to achieve this.

(d) The foundation and purpose for the Kaunihera was then discussed. It is a tool to provide wisdom and guidance, particularly around issues of tikanga. The Kaunihera is a tool for all to use – not just the Trust Board. Merereina called for a wananga to deal with all that stuff. Harry assured all that the Kaunihera is a starting point. He acknowledged that it is a challenging space and wished to offer the support of the Trust Board to those involved.

(e) Kahi presented a letter from Frances, this was referred to general business.

(f) There would be an update on the education strategy being developed by Ngāti Kuri under the project management of Karena Neho Hart and Hailey Tobin. This was put to General Business.

(g) Harry drew attention to the financials; they had also been both mailed out and were printed up and available for anyone who required a copy. At a high level, it would show NKTB making a loss and Te Urungi o Ngati Kuri as making a profit. This was due to the ACE revenue being now deposited with Te Urungi and no longer with Ngāti Kuri Trust Board. However, the expenditure of Ngāti Kuri Trust Board was down on 2012. This was due to the Negotiation process movement and stalling. It was then announced that the financials of Waimarama Ltd would not be made public. It was clarified that Ngāti Kuri Trust Board owns 100% of Te Urungi o Ngāti Kuri, which in turn holds 100% of Waimarama shares. This had been set up to protect all of the assets of Ngāti Kuri, akin to a firewall.

Bundy made clear that he would like to see two Marae Trustees included on the Te Urungi Board in a learning capacity. After a full discussion regarding Waimarama, Harry closed the topic by explaining that it is up to each individual to ask themselves if they trust those whom they have appointed to look after the business. Every year they have an opportunity to performance review these people. Waimarama was bought as a distressed property. The focus of the Board had been the whenua more than the business. There had been working capital issues, however the cost of entry had been low. It is a typical agri-business with high upfront costs and long term returns on investment. The business still stacks up. He also outlined various future plans that were in trial for Waimarama.

### **3.1 Motion: That the chairman's report be accepted.**

**Moved: Harry Burkhardt    Seconded: Marama Pohatu    Motion carried.**

Reece Burgoyne stood up to speak; Harry requested first if Reece would adhere to the kawa of the Marae and respect everyone's mana. Reece finally responded that he would. There followed a minor disruption to the meeting. Reece left.

Karaka brought up the issue of the pou. It was agreed that the correct forum for this discussion would be at a wananga.

Harry drew reference to what Reece had been speaking about. He agreed that in 1858 the Crown had alienated 58,000 hectares of land from our people. Graeme corrected him that it had been 86,000 hectares. The hui was informed that although that land would not return in the Treaty Settlement forum, it could be recovered through strategic purchases of land.

#### **4.0 Audited Financial Report:**

(a) The report was mailed to beneficiaries in their AGM packs, had been posted on the website and copies were made available at the hui.

(b) Queries; on Page 8 there has been an increase in the Te Manawa expenses, Harry explained that it is around the costing's for repairs and maintenance at Te Manawa and that it is important to look after our assets.

(c) Karaka questioned the expense around the pou. Harry explained that there had been \$42,000 given to develop the pou, however a further \$23,000 had already been paid. Ngāti Kuri paid \$55,000, which left us with a \$10,000 excess. He went on to again elaborate on the process about the pou. There had been a hui at Te Manawa and, with guidance from the Kaumatua, the story was developed. It was never intended to be Ngāti Kuri's story, as that was being saved for a pou whenua. The story on that pou was merely metaphorical. Kare thanked Harry for the clarity.

(d) An explanation of the difference between Negotiator costs and Trustee costs was requested by Bundy. Harry directed everyone's attention to the related pay transactions on the last page, which provided a breakdown in a transparent way, it was mentioned that these accounts had been audited.

Marihi questioned how that rate had been decided. Harry replied that it was decided by the Board in 2008. He said that he was happy to have a full discussion with anyone who may have queries, and that the intention of the Board was to endeavour to do the mahi to take Ngāti Kuri forward.

#### **4.1 Motion: That the audited financial report be received and adopted.**

**Moved: Harry Burkhardt    Seconded: Karaka Roberts    Motion Carried.**

#### **4.2 Motion: To accept PKF Aiken as the auditors going forward.**

**Moved: Kare Leathem    Seconded: Nellie Norman    Motion carried.**

#### **5.0 Historical Treat Settlement report:**

Catherine began by giving an overview of the past year. They had been sharply focused. There were some outstanding issues with the Crown that were yet to be resolved. The first was the issue of land at Hukatere. This had been blocked. The other item was the land status at Ramanuka. Ngāti Kuri wished to have this land status retained as recreational, but the Crown was trying to amp it up to a scenic reserve. This would limit the use of the land. The other land coming back was pointed out. Catherine outlined the process, which had increased the settlement package.

Harry explained that the last 12 months had been about landing in a place that was unprecedented. Cape View would not be coming back to Ngāti Kuri. It had gone to the tribunal, but they would not

support Ngāti Kuri's interest. Cape View was about having a cultural interest in that area. He asked Charlie Petera to explain why that area was so important culturally. Charlie spoke.

The hui then broke for lunch at 1.30pm and returned at 2pm. The Marae was thanked for the lovely meal.

There was an announcement that Ngāti Kuri had purchased a 540 hectare farm across from Te Manawa. This would further the strategy of the Board to have 'walls' of land up North by Te Rerenga Wairua and further to the south. There followed further discussion regarding aspects of the offer from the Crown and the strategy moving forward. Harry informed the group that there had been approval from the Board and the Kaumatua to sign the AIP, it would then come back to the people for ratification. A number of people expressed concern over settling, while others voiced their support to settle. Harry ensured that the Board was respectful that everyone has a view and also that the Board would hear and acknowledge all views. He also undertook to ensure that all decisions would be brought back and articulated. Tamati Norman congratulated the Board on the purchase of the farm and articulated his pride in knowing that land would be there for his tamariki.

Catherine requested that Marlina outline the Wai262 flora and fauna claim. Marlina did that. There followed a full discussion on that claim.

There was a question from Marihi regarding the intent of the Trust Board for Muriwhenua Incorporation and how it would affect the shareholders. Harry explained that it is a shareholder system. When those shares came out, depending on your circumstances, you were included or excluded. His view was that a tikanga-based process would be around Whakapapa. This would eliminate dilution of shares. The uneconomic shares should be parked and a beneficiary system rather than shareholder system be adopted. It was clarified that this was a suggestion only. Marihi questioned the appropriateness of that being suggested without consultation or korero between the two groups. She asked that this be confirmed. Harry did confirm that there had been no consultation or agreement with Muriwhenua Incorporation and that it would be a decision for the shareholders themselves to make. He went on to say that in terms of Parengarenga Incorporation, the Maori Trustee holds 24% of shares and that Ngāti Kuri want to receive half of them. This would allow Ngāti Kuri to influence that organisation in a positive way.

## **5.2 Motion: That the Historical Treaty Claims Report be received.**

**Moved: Merimeri Penfold    Seconded: Merereina    Motion carried.**

## **6.0 General Business:**

There was a report on the education strategy from Karena and Hailey. The purpose of the strategy is to create a Ngāti Kuri centric Education and Te Reo Strategy. They explained their consultation process so far, how this allowed them to complete milestone one and how they intended to present a compiled report to the Ministry of Education. There was some discussion regarding their outcomes and future plans.

(b) Kahi presented a letter from Frances requesting funding for a van for the school children in Te Hapua. After some discussion the Board undertook to look into the possibility.

(c) There was a request for fuller communication between the Trust Board and the beneficiaries, with the election process being highlighted. There is a strict process that must be adhered to for the

election process, this was outlined, However Harry was open to hearing how that could be achieved in a better way.

(e) It was announced that 31 wiener heifers had just been purchased for Waimarama and also that the position of Stock Manager would soon be advertised for Wharekapua.

In closing, Harry thanked everyone for coming and being part of the meeting. He also ensured everyone that the Board hears and takes on board anything that is said to them.

Karakia: Whare Mehana

Meeting closed at 3.40pm