

Notice of Motion – John Meeuwsen – Approval of Funding for the Waiheke Island Amateur Radio Club

In accordance with Standing Order 3.11.1, the following Notice of Motion has been received from Member John Meeuwsen for inclusion on the agenda for the Waiheke Local Board meeting being held on 22 February 2018:

Recommendations

That the Waiheke Local Board:

- a) Approve the sum of \$3000 to the Waiheke Island Amateur Radio Club (WARC), to be paid through the Waiheke Community Network Incorporated, formerly Waiheke District Council of Social Services (WICOSS), in partial recompense for WARC's expenditure to date of \$10,912.00 excluding GST on a radio repeater system mounted on a mast at the Batch Winery.

- b) Approve an additional \$1200.00 (2 x \$600 per annum) towards the maintenance of this radio facility for the remaining 2 years of the Local Board's current term of office.

Background

1. For more than 2 years amateur radio enthusiasts on Waiheke, attending meetings of the Waiheke Emergency Management Committee, have been advocating for a Waiheke radio system which enables the emergency services to talk to each other via a radio system designed to be capable of reaching all parts of our undulating terrain. This is necessary to overcome the fact that their communications systems do not connect to each other. Nor can they communicate with a control centre that could be operated by Council to connect these services and, ideally, evacuation centres that may need to be used in an emergency.
2. At Auckland regional level, this lack of inter-operability is overcome by attendance of personnel from each of the emergency services at the Emergency Management Control Centre operated by Auckland Council. These personnel are briefed together on site, who then communicate individually with their parent emergency service as required during emergencies etc.
3. On Waiheke, each emergency service may – or may not – communicate with local services. If power is interrupted or significant emergencies prevail on the mainland, we can be largely on our own for some time. This is what happened during our worst flooding in March and April last year. Interestingly, no incidents were recorded by the Central Control Centre for Waiheke or Great Barrier during those events and there was no evidence of involvement from the Auckland Emergency Management Control Centre during more recent high wind / peak tide wave action.
4. In the absence of a lead from Auckland Council's Emergency Management Group, WARC proceeded to seek out a location on the island which is high enough to support a radio-mast capable of reaching all parts of the island. They succeeded in finding a

Notice of Motion – John Meeuwsen – Approval of Funding for the Waiheke Island Amateur Radio Club

former power pole on land owned by the Batch Winery, next to the airport on Carson's Road and placed a radio repeating system on it which is now fully operation and capable of communicating with the various local emergency service providers during emergencies.

5. The following table sets out the expenditure by WARC to date of installing and the radio repeating system for Waiheke Island Civil Defence. GST is not included.

Equipment Detail	Cost
Dipole aerial and supporting hardware	\$990.00
Duplex radio base station and components	\$2,400.00
Equipment cabinet and security frame work	\$1,462.00
Site works including electricity and certification	\$250.00
Engineering time build/fabricate/install/test	\$3,200.00
Signage	\$60.00
5 hand portable radio sets for training	\$2,000.00
Licence application fee (1 off charge)	\$400.00
Annual licence fee	\$150.00
Total spend excluding gst	\$10,912.00

6. WARC will make efforts to obtain some funding for maintenance through use of the system by the individual emergency services and Council. There may be some opportunities for commercial users to put the system to use in which case they would also be expected to make a contribution.

7. Annual Running Costs are estimated as follows:

Estimated electricity usage.	\$174 based on a duty cycle 90/10
Annual Licence fee	\$150
Equipment maintenance costs per annum	\$1000

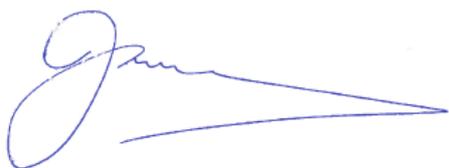
Notice of Motion – John Meeuwsen – Approval of Funding for the Waiheke Island Amateur Radio Club

8. Note that while the radio repeater system already enables emergency services on Waiheke to communicate to all emergency services, further work and community fundraising will be necessary to equip evacuation centres in selected villages with radio equipment and a source of back-up power to enable the emergency services to co-ordinate responses to emergencies to best effect.

Conclusion

9. In order that Waiheke is fully prepared for emergencies and that local and regional emergency services have a resilient and inter-operable communications system, it is recommended that the Waiheke Local Board support the Waiheke Island Amateur Radio Club for funding for the capital cost of the new radio mast and for ongoing maintenance.

Signatories



Author	John Meeuwsen
--------	---------------



Seconder	Bob Upchurch
----------	--------------