

**Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated**  
**Notes of Board Review Hui**

**1 September 2009 5.00pm**

**Tamatea Taiwhenua – Kitchener Street, Waipukurau**

**Attendance List:**

Marge Hape

Fiona Conrad

Liz Graham

Tony-Archie Renata

Robert Ropiha

Kohine Rata

Jenny Smith

Cath Pekepo

Haami Hilton

Edina Hilton

Bevan Tipene-Matua

Arahia Smith

Mike Ataera

Johnny Nepe Apatu

Meka Whaitiri

Christine Teariki

**Mihimihi:**

**Karakia:**

**Overview of hui: Christine Teariki**

**Overall general comments about the Board Review from the floor:**

- Acknowledged the NKII Board for coming. It's been a long time coming, and some say it's perfect timing.
- Complex issues around relationships regarding Tamatea and NKII often come up at monthly meetings.
- Solution – We need to go right back to the fundamental source – of who we are, where we come from and where we are going.
- Centralised models never work. Westernism, market culture, modern society, corporate culture.....experience shows that they don't work. Involvement with other iwi that are using this 'corporate management' shows that it is disconnecting us from who we are. "The trick is breaking it down to what we want, solutions".
- It's tempting to say "Get rid of everything and start again" but not sure how realistic that is. If we have time, we should take that time. With the Treaty Settlement process, it is a good timeframe.
- Would like to see things change, especially the spiritual & heart level. "Structure or process inadequacies can be overcome where the wairua is right, where the aroha is right, where the values are right, where the foundation is right". "It doesn't matter about the structure if you have honour, respect and trust". "Any overpowering structure will come down where there is no honour, spirit, aroha or trust". Maraes in Ngai Tahu might have money, systems, processes and management... "Here we don't have any of that but we have wairua and passion". We should try to get a mixture of these.

- First things first. “We need to win the hearts of our people”. “We need healing”. We sing the song... “Tutira mai nga iwi”
- There is still a lot of pain that exists regarding the waka. It’s not for our generation to fix it. It’s for our Kaumatua and Kuia to do what needs to be done to put it to rest so we can move on. It’s gone on for too long. We would like to see those things put to rest. “We need to lay down to rest those screw ups”. Apologies need to take place. We acknowledge that mistakes are made and people do things that should not have been done. But our challenge is to move on from this.
- “If we keep doing the same things, we’ll get the same results”. Where is the creative, innovative thinking? Regarding NKII the listening is non existent. We are interested in research and methodology to progress. But it’s stayed “the way it’s always been” Why does the iwi need to have the ‘Kahungunu Research’ set up in Heretaunga? It’s not rocket science. We’re not seeing a lot of learning. “We should be able to challenge and lay down solutions”.
- We have enough to think about at home....there’s so much there. We don’t have energy to think about Taiwhenua let alone Iwi Board. Coming together and sharing is great. This is positive. It doesn’t happen enough.
- At the same time the NKII ‘centralized iwi’ is creating ‘taniwha’ beasts that you can’t get rid of.
- We have been battling for quite some time to get NKII minutes here at the taiwhenua. There’s a whole host of things that need changing. The process needs changing.
- Concerns about funding. Education is important to us. We struggle to understand how we spend only 2% of money on education if it’s a priority. Where does this weigh up against the bigger events like the Takitimu Festival. “It’s a gross imbalance of how the funding is being spent”.
- The Communication needs improving. We are supposed to be able to take information back to our marae. If we don’t have the information it’s an easy way of keeping the power. Am against the centralization. Decisions are rammed through without whanau consultation.
- We’ve been there and done that. We need to come up with simple solutions.
- Regarding our delegate, the communication is not coming through. NKII information – regarding agenda packs....are not coming through.
- Issues regarding NKII are ‘untidy and messy’. “The perception that we owed a debt that we didn’t owe” – it’s messy.
- There is no relationship. NKII are destroying the relationship. “There is no communication”. For example - When we look at the objectives and purposes of NKII, education is right up there. But what’s being delivered and how are these being delivered? There’s no information on the website about how we are improving. We hear about the waka.....and how we are sailing into the pacific. But what about the daily issues that deserve to be looked at, such as education.
- 1.4m comes into NKII. “A little bit trickled down through to the hapu would be good”.

- A key issue is Communication. “It’s very important. If the receiver does not receive the information like the sender intends, then there are problems and we feel a little bit discontent”.
- If NKII wants something from us, then we need to know what we can expect from NKII. “At the moment I don’t have any expectations from NKII”
- Disappointed in the education branch of NKII. It’(education) is a social issue. Through education we can alleviate problems down the track.
- Issues around the fisheries loan still exist. The NKII Kaiwhakawa that was set up to deal with this issue left it incomplete. The NKII Kaiwhakawa has not come back – Kanohi ki te Kanohi to sort through the problems. We would like feedback.
- I would like NKII to be more proactive
- “It’s interesting to listen to this korero. These problems were here when I was here 4 years ago”. I’m concerned that ‘Septicemia has set in’
- The waka – is symbolic of the wairua. “I would like to see this prioritised up”. As wonderful as the Takitimu Festival was, it puts a shadow over the other issues.
- It’s really hard to expect one representative from the Board to be responsible to bring information back to the taiwhenua to take to the marae....for whanau to communicate with their whanau. It would be good to have the minutes of meetings put onto the website. It’s human nature that you can’t be expected to capture it all. “There’s always tension around covering everything versus time”.
- NKII can do things different. The shape is okay. “But the way we do things can help”.
- Regarding the questionnaire, we need to pitch the right questions. I am not sure that NKII will get the information we need.
- “Skype may be a way we can communicate with eachother. It’s free”. The iwi structure is fine, but there are things we need to do differently. Compared to the ‘Supercity’, every council has the same issues, things are whipped past and one person is expected to go out and spread the information.
- “I would not like to see the structure change – but the way we do things should change”. NKII can do some things faster on our behalf for example the “Seabed and Foreshore” – we engaged fast.
- NKII could schedule people to come out more often to meet with us kanohi ki te kanohi. “That type of opportunity could go a long way in fostering engagement”.
- Acknowledged Ruth (NKII) Keeps us abreast of things through the emails.
- Our whanau are all over the place – all around the world. We need to be able to keep up with the way the world changes. The current way we’ve been doing things have been centralized. We need to be innovative in the way we do things.
- NKII needs to be transparent and prioritise.
- Acknowledged Pa Wars at Splash Planet. Awesome occasion.
- Whanau member shared, “Lost heart in the Taiwhenua and NKII and the structure being promoted”. “Concerned about wanting to participate but was hard to accept needing to register in order to receive privileges the organizations were offering”. Felt that bloodline connections were sufficient. Withdrew family from the NKII registration database. ...”Looked for alternatives that could assist in the well

being and care of whanau”. Grateful the offer is still here for participating.... It keeps us connected to the people who attend these hui.

- NKII - Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated is outdated. It needs to come into the present – ‘the right now time’.
- A solution – a new idea – ‘The Unity-Kahungunu-Iwi’ copyright 2009 – There is no collective. We are either in unity or we’re not. I don’t think we are. ‘Ko au ko koe, Ko koe ko au....’
- Robert Ropiha “There are further concerns that minutes of NKII Board meetings are late getting to Board members. Sometimes minutes get to members just prior to the meeting. Information is dumped on Board members at the meetings and you have to go with what’s on the table at the time. It starting to slip back again”. There are supposed to be Taiwhenua reports that go into the meeting. Summary reports are sometimes a little bit late going up on the iwi page. One subject that came up at a NKII Meeting was the Te Aute Farm... a lot of that information was dumped on the table at the meeting. There are still issues around the waka. We are not sure how it will be fixed and who will do it. Some people think things are settled and some people don’t think so. Have received emails from Ruth regarding the Board Review. Christine clarified that notes from the Board Review meetings are going to the participants and Board members to help make decisions.
- *Questions were asked about receiving information from the Board Review hui held in other Taiwhenua to see their responses and concerns. It was clarified that those Taiwhenua need to sanction this. It’s not about privacy....but courtesy. If other Taiwhenua don’t mind, notes from their Board Review meetings will be disseminated. All information helps with our development. It’s common sense to share the information. Information sharing at all levels helps with our health and development. Inter Taiwhenua relationships have been missing.*
- *The Iwi Management Forum was discussed and how it was a brilliant idea for communicating across Taiwhenua. Although good Kaipapa, some participants felt that they were being unduly influenced. The IMF didn’t concentrate on the Taiwhenua business as participants thought it should. A recent suggestion was that the Chair persons of the Taiwhenua get together....different levels of engagement as another means of information sharing.*
- If there are problems here in Tamatea and the same issue is happening in Wairarapa.....it’s an opportunity to share. The more you do share, the better we can pull our resources together.
- *“Originally the boundaries used to be Kahungunu ki Wairoa, ki Heretaunga, ki Wairarapa. Ozzie Huata, Pita Sharples, Wi Te Tau Huata, Moana Raureti – decided it was too big an area and divided into 6 boundaries. That caused a lot of friction at the time. The more information we have the more we can see what our choices might be. At least we have the options.*
- *Korero about fishing. The KAHC working with hapu to develop an economic base. At the moment working with Ngati Hinewaka. Mataitai been stalled. AFL korero at Porangahau. Research was done. Porangahau and Ngati Rakaipaaka – where the claims were the most.*

- “Our iwi should be up with the play by now. The iwi has been through a lot of raruraru, but still making the same mistakes. Have not learnt a lot. NKII should be strong”. “we do a lot of korero.....but there’s too much water under the bridge”
- Unless we get the waka issue fixed it’s going to be a long time before we can progress.
- Acknowledged Johnny who sat on the Waka committee. “If we don’t fix that issue.....nothing else will happen for a long time. We need to deal with that before we go purchasing another waka. It’s very disrespectful”. (Mataweka marae representative)
- The iwi communications needs improvement. Board minutes and issues need to be sent out earlier so that decisions can be made better. Getting information on the day at NKII Board meetings is not fair. Board reps don’t have a chance to bring the information back to our taiwhenua and for us to take it back to our marae. NKII needs to get their processes right. We are ill informed.
- The NKII operation needs a good clear review. There’s not a lot of knowledge of how the operations are from NKII to Taiwhenua to our marae.
- I believe NKII has objectives and strategies. How do we know what’s been done? Have the goals been achieved? What are the next steps? How many assets do the iwi hold. What are the values? What does the iwi do with the \$1.4m. What’s happening with the money that used to come out to the Taiwhenua? How does that help the Taiwhenua grow? “It’s frustrating”.
- “Now that the fishing assets have come out to the iwi it seems that there’s no need for the Taiwhenua. it’s been hidden in the dark. Prior to that it was all about getting the mandate from the iwi”.
- The accountability to the people from leadership is not working. “We want to know about the projects so we can participate”. “We don’t want to be kept in the dark”.
- Johnny Nepe Apatu acknowledged all of the korero and gave a quick overview and a historical account. “It’s about grass roots, whanau/hapu/marae”.
- “Am fortunate to have been there in 1981 when the seed was planted when Pita came with the Kaupapa. The first hui was held in Waipukurau in the Masonic Hall with an excess of 80 people gathered. The first ever account held by the Runanga O Ngati Kahungunu Trust Board was the Aorangi Trust Board....(that Liz and I are on today). When Pete came around he opened his heart and his mind to everyone about this Kaupapa supported by Moana Raureti, Wi Te Tau Huata, Bill Hamilton, Riki Smith, (a few named from that era). During that time Government boundaries had previously split us apart. The idea was to bring Kahungunu together from Wairoa to Wairarapa. They didn’t speak about splitting us from our Rongomaiwahinetanga or the Rangitanetanga, they spoke about being one, one rohe under Kahungunu but still acknowledging other iwi living within the boundaries. This is how things were done in those days. Everyone came together and everyone was invited to have a say, and when everyone walked away, they were happy because they had their say... At least everyone had their say. Nowadays hardly anyone turns up. (Back then) we were working well as a unit. Pete stood down and John Scott came in. Things started to change and this was the time that the Runanganui Bill came in. We were thinking

and saying the same things, but there was this law telling us that we had to do something else....that's when whanau hapu and iwi stopped having their say....then Uncle Charlie Mohi came on board and the waka. The Kaupapa of that waka came from Jackie Niania and Jim Hutcheson. They held a hui at Rakautatahi in 1989 where they brought the Kaupapa to the Taiwhenua. It was then taken to Bridge Pa where they gave the sanction to be an iwi waka. We've finished with that Kaupapa but people are still bringing up raru."

- In that era there was a big turmoil in Heretaunga and the Runanga was put into liquidation. Everything to do with TRONK should have been put to rest, but somehow NKII carried over debts from TRONK. There was \$2m in the kitty when TRONK closed down, but in the time that things were with the liquidator, money had been wiped out. Bills were not paid and that's how we got stuck with our bill.
- NKII was a whole new organization and it had nothing to do with TRONK. When I (Johnny) came onto the board, I got frustrated because it wasn't about Tamatea, it was about the whole rohe. I was the Deputy Chair. I felt like I was fighting a losing battle. I've felt this way ever since. I don't feel that NKII comes back to grass roots at all. To see the faces come here is rare. That's what the iwi's about. We need to be able to see the iwi come here. "It's about grass roots, whanau/hapu/marae".
- Here we are...being demanded to pay back a 'piddly' amount of money and then the iwi wastes half million on a Waka. Where's the transparency. Where's the communication and consultation with the whanau/hapu/marae?
- "We have rangatahi coming up that we expect to be leaders. We are expected to guide them, but how can we guide them when money is going somewhere else for an individual?" The \$500k could have been used for 500 scholarships that would have been of more worth to our people than a plastic waka. Where's the idea behind all of this. "Tukahu - \$2m investment and we have nothing to show for it. It's a good summary of where we are at.
- In 1997 we had 3 tonne of cray fish and 100kgs of wetfish that brought to this taiwhenua \$200,000. We split it 9 ways – 8 marae and the taiwhenua. We grew that business and that's how we paid our bills. Ngahiwi (NKII) came here in 1999 and asked for it. He said the iwi would grow their business and in three years they'd give it back....Well it's now 2009 – ten years later it went from 250k per year and the last one was \$40k and now nothing.
- We are expected to keep our whanau/marae informed and to keep our hapu pumping...but then we see the Board spending \$500k on an individual without even knowing about it. Our NKII Board delegate knew nothing about it. How do we react when our people ask us about this waka?. What can we tell whanau when we ourselves don't know.
- What we want is fair representation and good communication. Kanohi ki te Kanohi – pakahiwi ki te pakahiwi.
- Whanau are hoha with the iwi and the decisions that are being made without consultation.
- Issues around the asset were put to the floor. "We don't even know what the asset is...Is it growing to create jobs?" "What is the point of growing an asset if it's not getting fed back to the beneficiaries". Is an asset still growing?

- Concerns about quota chopped in half – Shelving.

### **NKII Feedback**

- *Regarding the waka all money will come from an outside source. In regard to decision making...the NKII Board agreed on principle. It was announced at the NKII AGM.and 6 months later a waka was launched.*
- *Regarding fishing legislation. Legislation states that assets remain at the centralized iwi level. The benefits go out but assets remain at the iwi level.*
- *Regarding treaty claims, Kahungunu is the only iwi that doesn't own all of the treaty claims. The iwi has taken all the generic treaty claims like, fish, flora and fauna, petroleum and coal and freshwater issues. All the land treaty claims belong to the hapu. All other iwi have taken over all the treaty claims. This is one way the iwi felt to help the marae/hapu. NKII saw their role as giving the legal point of reference. The iwi believed land claims belonged to the hapu.*
- *In terms of NKII Board meeting processes. NKII used to have a process where a discussion paper was tabled, then the decision was made at the next meeting giving delegates time to back to their taiwhenua to discuss this further before the next meeting. Nowadays people are bringing their papers to the board...and it's not even in the board pack. Things are pushed through and are sometimes externally influenced to meet timeframes, for example Climate Change and Resource Management issues. There's not the considered way of doing things like before, but a process needs to be done.*
- *Regarding iwi assets. The asset was tied up in AFL. Kahungunu has \$90m in shares. The crown holds the asset.*
- *Regarding Treaty Claims," It's the only issue where the thief sets the parameters of redress (sets the rules) & withholds the resources. They (the crown) have total control. Even when its handed over, they control the use of it.*
- Why was the old NKII building sold if it wasn't costing anything?
- Why is NKII now in a pakeha building? Lowe House?
- How do you grow capacity and participation on \$1.4m?
- We want to know how we can grow. We want to have a Tamatea Day. What type of assistance can the board give us?
- There are concerns for the new people who are here to support the Taiwhenua who will inherit these same issues discussed tonight.
- Acknowledged NKII coming here. Found it very enlightening.
- Hopefully this is a start of a good relationship.
- JNA – Bottom line, Tamatea is owed money.

### **Meka – Gave an overview of the state of the iwi?**

#### **Information packs were given out.**

- *NKII was formed out of the fisheries settlement "- (noted as incorrect information)."*
- *A separate holding company was established*
- *Iwi received shares, quota and cash settlement*

- *The sole share holder of the Kahungunu Asset Holding Company is NKII*
- *NKII approves the KAHC purpose, priorities and budget*
- *KAHC protects and grows the asset.*
- *Contribution back to marae/taiwhenua is through the \$1.4m dividend that the KAHC pays.*
- *The 1.4m is used to run the NKII Operation including the Board of which there are currently 10 on the Board.*
- *We have advertised the NKII election happening next year.*
- *Of the korero we've heard tonight – prioritizing is definitely a key.*
- *There are currently 10 permanent staff, 4 contracted staff, 1 seconded staff member & 10 board members.*
- *\$30k will be used for election next year.*
- *Between the Board and the office, we have \$1.4 to spread.*
- *Whatever resources we have, we will support our own.*
- *This Saturday we have a Hui A Hapu at Heretaunga Taiwhenua.*

Highlighted focus for this years annual plan:

- Foreshore and Seabed
- Rangatahi Youth Development
- Family Violence
- Fresh water issues
- Fisheries
- Language and Culture

Christine to find out if the KAHC could hold an information sharing hui in Tamatea in October.

**Closing Acknowledgements – Johnny Nepe Apatu**

**Karakia – Kaumatua Haami Hilton.**

***Thank you all for attending.***

*Notes from this meeting will be emailed or posted to all participants on tonights attendance register.*