

Minutes

Board meeting		Public session	
Date		28 July 2026	
Venue		Watercare House, Level 4 Boardroom, 73 Remuera Rd, Remuera and via Microsoft Teams	
Time		10:14am to 10:32am	
Attendance			
Board of Directors		Watercare staff	Guests
Geoff Hunt (Chair) Andrew Clark Karen Sherry Julian Smith Graham Darlow Rukumoana Schaafhausen On Microsoft Teams John Crawford		Jamie Sinclair – Chief Executive Mark Bourne – Chief Operations Officer Andrew Mercer – Head of Health, Safety and Wellbeing (from start until end of item 7) Matthew Hill – Senior Legal Counsel	Members from Auckland Council Trudi Fava, Principal Advisor CCO Governance and External Partnerships (via Microsoft Teams) Members from the Commerce Commission Charlotte Reed, Head of Water Regulation (via Microsoft Teams)
1.	Opening karakia The Chair opened the meeting and Andrew Clark led the karakia.		
2.	Apologies There were no apologies.		
3.	Quorum A quorum was established.		
4.	Declaration of any conflicts of interest Andrew Clark noted his usual conflict of interest when it comes to tax issues, as he is the CFO of Ports of Auckland Limited. No other conflicts of interest were noted.		

5.	Minutes of the previous meeting of 30 June 2026 board meeting <i>The Board resolved that the minutes of the public session of the board meeting held on 30 June 2026 be confirmed as true and correct.</i>
6.	Public deputations There was no public deputation.
7.	Health, safety, and wellness update The CE introduced the report, and the following key points were made: • There has been stable overall performance in health, safety and wellbeing. A key focus was the mid-June Contractor HSW Forum which brought together Watercare and delivery partners to reinforce shared ownership of health, safety and well-being and reiterate its importance. • In June, Watercare completed the definition of its critical controls and performance standards. Each critical risk has a group of subject matter experts working in a learning team to improve the management of that risk. The new critical controls will be integrated in the upcoming HSW software solution. This is a step up in terms of critical risk management. • Management will arrange for industrial psychologist Kyle McWilliams to provide training to directors about having good conversations about safety on site. • Given recent changes introduced by the Health and Safety at Work Amendment Act 2026, which comes into force on 1 April 2027, Management will arrange for a legal refresher to be provided to the Board and executive about the changes. • In respect of the underground gas pipe strike by one of Watercare’s contractors, Andrew Mercer noted that gas pipes can be harder to detect than other pipes. Our contractors have suitable processes when a strike occurs including notifying FENZ and Vector. In the event of a significant leak, the process includes ceasing works immediately, de-energising equipment, advising people nearby and leaving the area. • In response to a question, Andrew advised that there may be approximately 30 people on ACC at any one time, but the number fluctuates as does the severity of the injury. Most injuries are minor and staff are back to work quickly. Watercare has a light duties policy and aims for staff to return to work as soon as appropriate. Andrew will provide the Board with further data on staff returning to work after accidents/injuries. <i>The Board noted the report.</i>
8.	Chief Executive’s report The CE introduced the report, which was taken as read. The following key points were made. • The agreed price increases (7.2% for water and wastewater charges and 20% for Infrastructure Growth Charges) became effective from 1 July 2026. • The bulkhead separating the northern and southern ends of the Central Interceptor was successfully removed, and the formal opening event held on 20 July was a success. • In the report, the percentage of real water loss was incorrectly recorded in the report as 13.83% but should be 11.26% (target met) and the volume of real water loss recorded as 121.84 should have been green because the target was met.

	• The programme of upgrades to the wastewater system in the South West will address the issues raised in the letter from Auckland Council about the Waiuku Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plant runs quite old technology, and some interim upgrades will help improve performance. The ultimate proposal is to divert the flow to Clarks Beach so that suitable treatment can occur before discharge. Management will respond to the Council's letter. • The \$75 million Auckland-wide flood recovery programme is now completed. Management to provide an update to the Board on the flood recovery insurance claim. • In terms of staff exits, it was noted that females are disproportionately represented. Management have discussed this at executive level and are collating more information. Turnover is creeping up but remains low at 10.56%. • Management will provide an update to the Board next month about the Waikato Tainui Kawenata and projects. • Watercare's procedures in relation to positive E. coli events are being updated. Watercare is hosting a whole-of-country exercise with the communications staff of the newly formed water organisations and councils to share Watercare resources and templates, which is expected to go a long way toward standardising the approach nationally. Watercare is clear about its position, the steps that we will follow and how we will inform the regulator should an event like this occur. <i>The Board noted the report.</i>
10.	Board planner <i>The Board noted the board planner.</i>
11.	Directors' appointment terms, committee memberships and meeting attendances <i>The Board noted the report.</i>
12.	Disclosure of directors' and executives' interests <i>The Board noted the report.</i>
13.	General business There was no other general business. The public session closed at 10:32am.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

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Geoff Hunt, Chair