



National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee

NAEAC 45 / 22

Te Komiti Tohutohu Matatika Kararehe ā-Motu
Tikanga hui: General Meeting

Rā: 18 August 2022
Tāima: 9.00 am – 4.00 pm

Via Microsoft Teams

Meneti | Minutes

Komiti / Committee: Natalie Waran (Chairperson), Arnja Dale, Laura Bennet, Janine Duckworth, Rob Hazelwood, Jacquie Harper, Mike King, Nita Harding, Rachel Heeney and Dianne Wepa.

Nuinga / Attendees: ^{9(2)(a)}

Manuhiri / Guests: ^{9(2)(a)}

Nau mai / Welcome

M King gave the opening karakia. N Waran informed the committee that she needed to leave around 1030am for a PCR test. J Harper chaired for N Waran during this time.

Introductions were provided to the committee by ^{9(2)(a)} and ^{9(2)(a)}

N Waran acknowledged this meeting as the final general meeting for R Hazelwood and A Dale. They will both be attending the September Codes review meeting in Wellington and the October Animal Ethics Committee workshop in Hamilton. Committee members shared their sentiments.

Matangaro / Apologies

^{9(2)(a)}

Any Other Business Part One (Open to the Public)

Any Other Business Part Two (Public Excluded Agenda)

PART ONE (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

O 1. Confirmation of previous minutes

The draft minutes of the general meeting held on 18 May 2022 were reviewed.

J Duckworth raised that the subcommittee table needed to be updated.

Moved: (A Dale / M King):

That the draft minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2022 be adopted as a true and accurate record pending the mentioned amendments.

The motion was put: carried.

O 2. Status of actions arising from previous meetings

NAEAC reviewed the status of the action list and updated it accordingly.

Action: AEC feedback regarding reviewer performance to be added to CEC subcommittee work programme – ^{9(2)(a)}

Action: ^{9(2)(a)} **to provide update regarding the provision of information from MPI reviewers about AECs to the committee**

O 3. NAEAC correspondence

^{9(2)(a)} informed the committee that there was no correspondence to note from the NAEAC inbox. There has been correspondence with Animal Ethics Committees to promote the John Schofield 3R's award. ^{9(2)(a)} circulated information regarding the collection of animal use statistics as well as the updated Performance Standards prior to the meeting. ^{9(2)(a)} is working with MPI compliance to follow up on 6 outstanding statistics returns.

O 4. MPI update

The paper was circulated prior to the meeting and was taken as read.

^{9(2)(a)} provided an update on MPI staffing changes and resource allocation. She is still waiting on approval to allow recruitment in the Research, Testing and Teaching space.

^{9(2)(a)} provided an update on the work being completed by the Animal Welfare Policy team, including export of livestock by sea and the NZAVS petition submitted by Tara Jackson. N Waran would like the committee to have some targeted discussion around the petition. As an advisory committee, NAEAC would like to be prepared to respond as needed.

Action: ^{9(2)(a)} **to send petition update/documents to committee**

N Waran sought feedback from the committee on any aspects of the MPI update. There were no further comments.

O 5. MPI summary of CEC approvals, notifications, and revocations

The paper was circulated prior to the meeting and was taken as read.

A Dale had a question around the termination of arrangements notified to MPI. 9(2)(a) provided context. A Dale questioned if a final report was sent to the Director General in relation to the approval of use of non-human hominids. 9(2)(a) & N Harding informed the committee that a final report was provided.

Action: 9(2)(a) *to find final report on non-human hominids and re-circulate to the committee.*

D Wepa joined the meeting at 0945am.

O 6. Update from NAEAC subcommittees

The Chair asked each subcommittee chair to report back on progress/updates on the workstreams and engagement since the last general meeting.

The Committee went through subcommittee table and provided updates.

The John Schofield 3Rs Award: R Heeney & J Harper (NAEAC) and A Dale & M King (ANZCCART).

Action: 9(2)(a) *to ensure that R Heeney has relevant meeting dates.*

Mātauranga Māori: D Wepa volunteered to take over from N Waran as Chair. 9(2)(a) suggested connecting with MPI policy.

Code of Ethical Conduct Review Process (A Dale – Chair): A Dale confirmed that 9(2)(a) is happy to still be involved. A Dale to remain chair until a replacement is found. Committee agree that two members is currently suitable, as the wider committee also provide support as needed.

Rehoming Guidelines (N Harding – Chair): N Harding recommends the addition of an external member.

Surgical Models – N Harding also recommends an external member, someone that teaches with animals. R Heeney expressed her interest.

Action: 9(2)(a) *to update master subcommittee list*

A Dale provided an update on the Codes of Ethical Conduct Subcommittee. A memo was circulated prior to the meeting. NAEAC was happy with the work that has been completed to date. N Waran would like this document to be made more visible. 9(2)(a) informed NAEAC that 9(2)(a) will be working on a communication plan and this is something that is best discussed with her.

R Hazelwood provided an update on NAEAC Publications. NAEAC discussed the Good Practice Guide. Recommendations were made for improvement including providing an option to “filter” for easier document navigation. 9(2)(a) highlighted that there will be some updates made with the subcommittee to meet MPI compliance standards. Harm/Benefits analysis was discussed. NAEAC supports the subcommittee carrying out further work on this.

NAEAC discussed the inclusion of zebra fish in the Good Practice Guide and agreed that this was an important issue to keep momentum. 9(2)(a) informed the NAEAC that Minister Whaitiri is aware that there are issues around fish and zebra fish can be flagged specifically for NAEAC, under due process. Secretariat advice to NAEAC is to include this in a pre-scheduled meeting with the minister in November.

Action: N Waran to write to Minister Whaitiri ahead of the November meeting.

Action: N Waran and R Hazelwood to meet out of session to discuss the best way forward.

NAEAC agreed to include their statement on zebra fish on the website, with reference to this in the guide that directs people to the website.

O 7. RTT Infographic

The draft infographic was circulated prior to the meeting and was taken as read.

NAEAC discussed the infographic and concluded that N Harding, A Dale, M King will work with ^{9(2)(a)} to finalise the infographic out of session. This will be presented to the full committee at the upcoming September Code Review meeting.

Action: N Harding / A Dale / M King / ^{9(2)(a)} to finalise infographic

Meeting adjourned for a morning tea break at 10:39am.

Meeting recommenced at 11:00am. J Harper stepped in as Chair in place of N Waran.

O 8. Insect Sentience Seminar

NAEAC shared and discussed their individual views on the joint NAWAC / NAEAC insect sentience symposium and development of a Bee Code of Welfare.

NAEAC discussed how they can better include insects in the RTT space. N Harding suggested adding guidelines or recommendations to the Good Practice Guide and referenced on the website. NAEAC agreed this could be a good approach.

L Bennet suggested that getting the messaging out into the public/stakeholders could be a joint venture with ANZCAART.

M King suggested including respect for all animals under the fourth "R".

Action: N Harding / M King / A Dale meet to discuss the compassionate fourth R guideline approach, including Maturanga Māori.

O 9. Animal Usage Statistics

The paper was circulated prior to the meeting and was taken as read.

^{9(2)(a)} updated NAEAC on work with compliance to collect outstanding statistics returns, the new system for collecting animal use statistics and the new statistics report template. ^{9(2)(a)} is working with the Animal Welfare Science team to complete the new statistics report template to present the information in a more user-friendly way (e.g., more infographics).

R Hazelwood questioned if it is always the same people who don't submit reports, or if this changes each year. ⁹ informed that this is often parented organisations. ⁹
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^{9(2)(a)} clarified the general process in response to committee questions.

O 10. Social License to Operate

J Harper informed the committee that this will become a standard agenda item. One piece of work related to social license to operate is the inclusion of 3 Rs questions, alongside the required animal use statistics. The purpose of this is to ensure NAEAC is better informed and data can be collected to provide a robust and transparent system.

N Waran returned as Chair to the meeting at 11:52am.

^{9(2)(a)} informed NAEAC that MPI can support them with re-prioritisation of questions that sit alongside required questions around animal use statistics. NAEAC discussion highlighted the need to further discuss the intent behind these questions so that they receive valuable feedback.

A Dale suggested including “shout-outs” in the newsletter to highlight AECs that are doing positive work.

NAEAC agree to engage with AECs to gather feedback via targeted questions (e.g., how can NAEAC harness the AECs to better understand if New Zealand is making progress in the 3R space?). Inclusion of a refresher around correct process would be valuable to include in this engagement. Anonymous polls can be utilised for feedback.

Action: Schedule a meeting with AEC chairs

N Harding suggested short, targeted meetings with AECs to keep the engagement.

Action: NAEAC to further discuss a schedule to engage with AEC committees as a whole

Action: ^{9(2)(a)} recommends speaking to ^{9(2)(a)} about this. J Harper will take this on

O 11. NAEAC website

^{9(2)(a)} joined the meeting at 12:10pm.

^{9(2)(a)} overall recommendations for website improvements were:

- Improved bios for each member
- Photos of each member
- Photo of chair that can be downloaded by media – this needs to be in landscape format so they can fit media templates.

N Waran explained that NAEAC want to attract more people to the website and better inform the public on what they are doing in the RTT space. The website also needs to be more user friendly.

^{9(2)(a)} suggested using other methods (e.g., newsletters) to help direct people to the website. It was also noted that increased updates on the website would be valuable.

N Harding suggests providing information on the website for people who are looking into the RTT process.

N Waran suggested looking at international websites that may be similar.

Action: Committee to form a list of additions that they would like to include on the website and circulate to ^{9(2)(a)} for review. J Duckworth and N Waran to form a website subcommittee.

Meeting adjourned at 12:32.
Meeting recommenced at 13:00.

O 12. Rehoming animals used in research – Presentation

A Dale introduced guest speakers J Salinsky and J Cayzer.

Both speakers spoke about the process to rehome animals used in RTT, which is carried out between Massey University, The University of Auckland, HUHA and NZAVS.

Presentations were followed with committee member questions and discussion.

N Harding (rehoming subcommittee chair) will be in touch with J Salinsky and J Cayzer.

O 13. Committee members' reports on recent presentations and attendance at conferences

N Waran sought committee members reports on presentations they have done and conferences they have attended.

N Harding presented at a vet conference in June and spoke about how to determine if a project requires ethics approval or not. There was some valuable feedback and questions. Feedback included that some vets felt the application process was onerous (especially for straightforward procedures). R Hazelwood asked if there was any pushback from vets around the point of connection between Part 6 of Animal Welfare Act and The Veterinarians Act 2005, and whether the boundaries are clear around what can and can't be done by vets. N Harding believes this is a grey area and reiterated to vets that if they aren't sure about anything, they can approach AECs/NAEAC or other relevant parties to discuss and clarify. N Waran flagged this as a potential topic for a webinar with AECs/vets. N Harding suggested that providing specific examples around this will be very useful.

A Dale and M King attended and spoke at the annual ANZCAART conference in Melbourne. Next year this will be held in Adelaide.

O 14. AEC Workshop

Updated agenda was circulated prior to the meeting and committee reviewed via screen share. Speakers were confirmed and agenda will be updated.

Action: Subcommittee to finalise agenda and send to ^{9(2)(a)} to circulate to AECs

Action: ^{9(2)(a)} to organise a note to advertise the workshop for the ANZCAART LinkedIn page

PART TWO (PUBLIC EXCLUDED AGENDA)
DRAFT RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC
Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

There being no further introductory items of business to discuss, it was moved (N Waran / R Hazelwood):

A: *That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

C 1. Te Pukenga Code

C 2. CEC Review Reports:
 - Quality
 - Feedback Content

C 3. Code Review Process

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
<i>Te Pukenga Code</i>	<i>To enable the local authority to deliberate in private on decisions or recommendations where it is required to make a recommendation by any enactment.</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 48(2)(a)(ii) of the OIA.</i>
<i>CEC Quality of Review Reports</i>	<i>To enable the local authority to deliberate in private on decisions or recommendations where it is required to make a recommendation by any enactment.</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 48(2)(a)(ii) of the OIA.</i>
<i>Code Review Process</i>	<i>To enable the local authority to deliberate in private on decisions or recommendations where it is required to make a recommendation by any enactment.</i>	<i>That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 48(2)(a)(ii) of the OIA.</i>

B: *I also move that* ^{9(2)(a)}

remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of meeting procedure and the subject matter under consideration. This knowledge is relevant background information to assist the committee in its deliberations.

The motion was put: carried.

C 1. Te Pukenga Code:

N Waran introduced the Code and provided background. N Waran declared a conflict of interest as she has been seconded to write this code, therefore cannot contribute to the discussion. The purpose today is to introduce the Code and address any questions.

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

C 3. Code Review Process: Agenda item brought forward as a continuation of the Te Pukenga Code discussion.

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

Action: All comments and feedback to be prepared for the 13th September meeting

D Wepa left the meeting at 14:50.

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

Action: 9(2)(a) to schedule Teams meeting and provide invite to committee

C 2. CEC Review Reports:

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

9(2)(a) [Redacted]

N Waran provided thanks and closed the meeting with a karakia at 15:25pm.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982