Natural Hazards Commission
Toka Tū Ake

Minutes of the meeting of the Board

9.00am to 4.00pm | 30 April 2026
Venue: NHC office, 53 Princess Street, Riccarton, Christchurch

Present:

Chris Black (Chair)

Ruth Dyson

Alastair Hercus

Fiona Wilson

Scott Lewis

Erica Seville (online)

Andrea Brunner

Apologies:

In attendance:

Tina Mitchell, Chief Executive

Chris Chainey, Chief Financial Officer

Catherine Taylor, Chief People Officer

Rob Hodgson, Chief Data Officer

Michala Beacham, Chief Strategy Officer

Kate Tod, Chief Recovery Officer

Hamish Wall, Chief Canterbury Officer

Zoe Morley, Director OCE

s9(2)(a), Minutes

The meeting was declared open at 9.00am

	Agenda items & key discussion points	Actions required	Responsibility and due date
Section 1- Board Governance			
Commissioners joined the meeting at 9.00am			
1.1	**Board only time**		
Tina Mitchell joined the meeting at 9.16am			
1.2	**CE only time**		
Zoe Morley s9(2)(a) *joined the meeting at 9.45am*			
1.3	**Present and apologies** No apologies were noted.		
1.4	**Interest Register/Conflicts of Interest**	Add CE interests to the Board Interest Register	Z Morley 27 May 2026

	Agenda items & key discussion points	Actions required	Responsibility and due date
	The Board discussed correspondence from the Public Service Commission regarding Conflicts of Interest. The Board asked management to: • ensure procurement matters coming to the Board for approval also include detail on the approach taken to conflicts, noting this information is included in management level approvals. No new conflicts of interest were noted.		
1.5	**Confirmation of Board Minutes** The minutes of 24 February 2026 and 26 March 2026 were approved as true and correct, with minor amendments.		
1.6	**Matters arising** The Board noted Board paper 5.2 (Levy matter) has been removed from the Board meeting agenda.		
1.7	**Review action items** The action items were discussed and reviewed.		
1.8	**Board performance focus areas for 2026/27** The Board discussed the key focus areas for the year ahead. This includes the importance of AI and new technology in the future of work, stakeholder engagement, including with iwi, and event readiness. The Board: a) **noted** the progress made on the 2025 actions for ongoing Board performance improvement b) **agreed** the priorities for 2026/27 to continue enhancing Board performance and effectiveness.	Bring the Board stakeholder map to Board, alongside the Board work programme	Z Morley June 2026
Rob Hodgson, Kate Tod, Michala Beacham, Hamish Wall, Chris Chainey, Catherine Taylor joined the meeting at 10.47am			

Section 2 - Key matters for discussion and approval			
2.1	**CE Report** The Board discussed: • recent natural hazard events • progress against the 2025/26 SOPE measures at the end of the third quarter of the year • the CE's membership of the new National Emergency Board chaired by NEMA. The role of the NEMB is to provide assurance over the readiness of emergency management systems.		
The Board took a break from 11.00am to 11.38am, while Commissioners met with representatives of the HSSW management committee.			
	CE report continued The Board discussed work underway across the public services on the provision of technology services and the importance of taking a strategic lens to NHC's procurement of technology services to align timing with that work.		
Rob Hodgson, Kate Tod, Michala Beacham, Hamish Wall and Chris Chainey left the meeting at 11.44am			

2.2	**Health, Safety, Security and Wellbeing Quarterly Update**
	The Board discussed:
	• insights from Commissioners' meeting with the HSSW committee representatives:
	    ○ the high engagement of the representatives
	    ○ appreciation for the onsite wellness coach
	    ○ the support being offered to the On-solds team as the programme reaches its end stages
	    ○ a recent incident prompting activation of the blue light protocol
	• s9(2)(h)
	• the mechanisms in place to ensure claims and assessments can still be progressed when NHC staff
		Include additional details on the controls following changes to the critical risk 'working at heights' and changes to the categorisation of asbestos.	C Taylor
			August 2026

	are unable to access a site due to HSSW risks, such as the use of specialists. The Board: a) **noted** the steps taken by management to ensure field and front-line staff follow procedures and controls b) **approved** the update to the controls for 'falls from height' and the updated categorisation for 'asbestos,' and requested that Management come back to Board with additional detail on the controls for both c) **noted** the ongoing work to implement the updated critical risks and overlapping duties, and d) **discussed** the health and safety management system, critical risk controls, and processes and that these are understood and being applied effectively at NHC.		
Catherine Taylor left the meeting at 12.15pm *The Board took a lunch break from 12.15pm to 12.52pm*			
Section 3 - Key matters for approval			
Chris Chainey joined the meeting at 12.52pm			
3.1	s9(2)(i), s9(2)(j) [redacted]		

	s9(2)(i), s9(2)(j) [redacted]		
Section 4 – Other matters for discussion			
Kate Tod and Rob Hodgson joined the meeting at 1.12pm			
4.1	**NDRM update** The Board: a) **noted** the progress update on the NDRM b) **noted** the remaining agreed actions to achieve full maturity are all on track to be completed by the 30 June 2026, at which point ‘full-maturity’ as originally envisaged when the NDRM came into being five years will have been achieved.		
Kate Tod, Rob Hodgson and Chris Chainey left the meeting at 1.26pm *Catherine Taylor joined the meeting at 1.27pm*			
4.2	**2026 Engagement survey results summary** The Board discussed the sustained strong performance over several years, including in comparison to both the public sector and the insurance sector (as noted in the recent PCGC papers).		

	The Board: a) **noted** the results from the 2026 survey and engagement planning for 2026 b) **noted** areas identified for improvement will be included in the refreshed People Strategy.		
Section 5 – Other matters for approval			
5.1	s9(2)(ba)(i) [redacted]		
Catherine Taylor left the meeting at 1.51pm			
5.2	**Levy matter** This item was withdrawn from the Board agenda for 30 April 2026.		
Chris Chainey joined the meeting at 1.51pm			
5.3	**Statement of investment performance objectives (SIPO) annual review** The Board discussed: • progress on implementing the SIPO • oversight and support provided to management through the CMC • s9(2)(h) [redacted] The Board: a) **approved** the updated SIPO		

	b) **noted** that approvals in relation to investment delegations will be sought from the Board via CMC in June 2026.		
5.4	**Carbon neutral reporting: update on NHC's emissions and proposed next steps** The Board: a) **noted** the inherent volatility of carbon emissions given the nature of the work undertaken by NHC b) **approved** the proposal to keep the 2030 emissions target at the current mandated level c) **approved** the proposal to analyse NHC's supply chain emissions to test the feasibility of emission reductions with updates provided periodically in the CFO report to ARC.		
The Board took a break from 2.15pm to 2.25pm *Hamish Wall, Michala Beacham and Rob Hodgson joined the meeting at 2.25pm*			
5.5	**Corporate policies** The Board discussed: • adding in a specific requirement to the extra care claims policy to offer a NZ sign language interpreter when NHC is working with deaf people • an interest in reporting on the application of the extra care claims policy as part of the six-monthly Canterbury and NDRM update papers. The Board: a) **approved** the new Artificial Intelligence Policy (AI Policy) b) **approved** changes to the reviewed: i. Te reo Māori Policy ii. Extra Care Claims Policy, including changing the annual review frequency of the Extra Care Claims Policy to three years and transferring management ownership from the Chief Readiness Officer to the Chief Canterbury Officer	Work with Commissioners to ensure they are up to date on compulsory compliance modules	Z Morley C Taylor July 2026

	c) **approved** delegating to the Chief Executive, approval of future reviews of the: i. Te reo Māori Policy ii. Extra Care Claims Policy.		
Hamish Wall and Michala Beacham left at 2.47pm			
5.6	**Delegations framework** The Board: a) **approved** all changes to the Delegations Framework as listed within this paper.		
5.7	**Enterprise risk management enhancements** The Board: a) **approved** the updated enterprise risk management policy, subject to small amendments b) **approved** the updated enterprise risk management framework subject to small amendments c) **discussed and provided feedback** on: o the proposed amendments to the enterprise risk appetite statement o the proposed annual enterprise risk review o the proposed quarterly enterprise risk report.		
Chris Chainey left the meeting at 3.28pm			
Section 6 – Matters for noting			
6.1	**Monthly performance dashboard – February 2026** The Board noted the monthly dashboard and the NDRM performance reporting.	Reporting on the resolution of complaints to include details of where complaints were upheld, or not, and improvement opportunities identified through the complaints process.	M Beacham H Wall K Tod September 2026

6.2	**Financial reporting – February 2026** The Board: a) **noted** the following comments on the February 2026 financial performance: • the reported surplus for the month was $21.9 million, favourable to the month's budget by +$6.1 million. This result was largely driven by underwriting movements below budget (+$4.4 million) and outward reinsurance expense below budget (+$2.0 million) • cash and investments held at 28 February 2026 were $685 million, which is made up of Natural Hazard Fund (NHF) $666 million and non-fund cash $19 million • NHF investments were compliant with all policies at 28 February 2026.		
6.3	**Verbal updates by Board subcommittee Chairs** • In addition to items on this Board agenda, the March 2026 PCGC meeting covered the HRIS payroll project which is tracking well, Board professional development, a Commissioner induction plan and an AI development plan for Board Commissioners • In addition to items on this Board agenda, the April 2026 CMC meeting covered loss modelling, the s9(2)(h), s9(2)(j) [redacted] • In addition to items on this Board agenda and the March 2026 Board meeting, the March 2026 ARC meeting covered a six monthly digital update, extension of PWC as the internal auditor, internal audit actions expected to be complete by June 2026, and the operating model for actuarial capabilities	Link to insurance penetration paper presented to CMC provided to Commissioners	Z Morley May 2026
Michala Beacham joined the meeting at 3.42pm			
6.4	**Correspondence** The Board discussed:		

	• the strategic issues letter from the Board, responding to the Minister's Letter of Expectation.		
Michala Beacham left the meeting at 3.48pm			
Section 7 – Other business			
7.1	**Any other business** The Board thanked Ruth Dyson for her service and dedication while she has been on the NHC Board, noting that today's 30 April Board meeting coincided with her retirement from the Board after five years.		
Tina Mitchell, Zoe Morley and s9(2)(a) *left the meeting at 3.50pm*			
7.2	**Reflections**		
7.3	**Karakia**		
Meeting closed at 4.00pm			
The next Board meeting is scheduled for 27 and 28 May (Wellington). These minutes were signed as a true and correct record. Chris Black Date Board Chair			