

**MINUTES of the MEETING of RIVERINA WATER COUNTY COUNCIL,
held at 91 HAMMOND AVENUE, WAGGA WAGGA,
on WEDNESDAY 26th FEBRUARY 2014 at 9.30 am**

PRESENT: Clr. P. Funnell, Clr. G. Hiscock, Clr. R. Kendall I. Kreutzberger, Clr. J. McInerney, Clr. D Meyer OAM, Clr. A. Negline and Clr. G Verdon.

The General Manager, Director of Engineering, Corporate Services Manager and Phillip Swaffield (Internal Auditor) were in attendance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

14/1 Chairperson Clr. Hiscock read out the Acknowledgement of Country.

14/2 An apology for non-attendance was received from Clrs. Poynter and Kendall and leave of absence was GRANTED on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger and Negline.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

14/3 Clr. Funnell declared non-pecuniary interest in matters relating to the Uranquinty Power Station.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

14/4 The Minutes of the Meeting of 13th December 2013 having been circulated and read by the Members, were taken as being CONFIRMED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Meyer OAM.

CORRESPONDENCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW: forwarding a copy of Weekly Circulars 50/13 – 7/14.

STAFF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE: (14 January 2014) forwarding Minutes of the Staff Consultative Committee Meeting held 18 December 2013.

14/5 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Negline and Verdon that the correspondence be received.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – LIST OF INVESTMENTS

- 14/6 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger and Verdon that the report detailing Council's external investments for the months of December 2013 and January 2014 be received.

QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2013

- 14/7 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Negline that the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ended 31st December 2013 be received and adopted.

OPERATIONAL PLAN – PERFORMANCE TARGETS

- 14/8 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Negline and McInerney that the report detailing progress achieved towards the various objectives set out in the 2013/2014 Operational Plan be noted and received.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES

- 14/9 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Negline and Meyer OAM that Council receive and note the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 13th February 2014 and endorse the recommendations contained therein.

LOST TIME INJURY STATISTICS

- 14/10 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger and Meyer OAM that the quarterly statistics report on Lost Time Injuries for the 12 months ended December 2013 be received and noted.

Clr. Kendall entered the meeting 10.00 am.

DRAFT INTERNAL POLICY 3.23 MOBILE PHONE USE

- 14/11 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger and Negline that Riverina Water County Council adopt Draft Internal Policy 3.23 Mobile Phone Use.

DRAFT INTERNAL POLICY 3.10 FAMILY VIOLENCE

14/12 RESOLVED on the motion of Cllrs. McInerney and Kendall that Riverina Water County Council adopt Draft Internal Policy 3.10 Family Violence.

DRAFT INTERNAL POLICY 3.17 ACCESS TO PERSONNEL FILES

14/13 RESOLVED on the motion of Cllrs. Kendall and Funnell that Riverina Water County Council adopt Draft Internal Policy 3.17 Access to personnel files.

DRAFT INTERNAL POLICY 3.24 LOSS OF LICENCE

14/14 RESOLVED on the motion of Cllrs. McInerney and Verdon that Riverina Water County Council adopt Draft Internal Policy 3.24 Loss of Licence.

DRAFT INTERNAL POLICY 3.26 STAFF EDUCATION & TRAINING

14/15 RESOLVED on the motion of Cllrs. McInerney and Verdon that Riverina Water County Council adopt Draft Internal Policy 3.26 Staff Education & Training.

DRAFT INTERNAL POLICY 3.16 STAFF TRAVEL EXPENSES

14/16 RESOLVED on the motion of Cllrs. McInerney and Verdon that Riverina Water County Council adopt Draft Internal Policy 3.16 Staff Travel Expenses.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW – GENERAL MANAGER

14/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Cllrs. McInerney and Kreutzberger that the Council consider the Chairman’s Report “Performance Review – General Manager” whilst the meeting is closed to the Public as it relates to personnel matters about an individual, as prescribed by Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993.

DEVELOPER SERVICING CHARGES – ISSUES

14/18 RESOLVED on the motion of Cllrs. Kendall and Funnell that Council note the advice of the General Manager.

**QUESTION WITH NOTICE – DIVIDEND PAYMENT TO
CONSTITUENT COUNCILS**

MOVED by Clrs. Kendall and Funnell that Council give consideration of payment of dividend during deliberation of Council's budget and Operational Plan.

This Motion was LOST

**DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF
DECEMBER 2013**

- 14/19 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Negline that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of December 2013 be received and noted.

**DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF
JANUARY 2014**

- 14/20 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Funnell and Kreutzberger that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of January 2014 be received and noted.

REDEVELOPMENT OF RALVONA BORE 1B

- 14/21 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Kendall that Council confirm expenditure of this unbudgeted cost, estimated to be \$26,400 inc GST, to attempt to reinstate the Ralvona Bore 1B Bore.

**BASIX REVISION AND ITS IMPACT ON COUNCIL
SUSTAINABILITY**

- 14/22 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Funnell that the report be noted.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Clr. McInerney: Welcomed Clr. Funnell, hoping for a long relationship with Council.

Clr. Meyer OAM: Referred to the recent REROC meeting, General Manager Haley attended. Asked what's Councils attitude to Water reform in the future?

General Manager: Submission has been prepared for Local Government Review Panel; a draft will be emailed to Councillors and discussed at Councils Extraordinary meeting to be held 26th March 2014.

Clr. Kendall: Following on Riverina Water County Council's review into Local Government, changes to this organisation, could result in a bigger organisation. The earlier we have discussions the better, first step was for Council's to protect their position.

Clr. Meyer OAM: Greater Hume has 3 providers of water, where does that leave us, could remain as Greater Hume. Minister has final decision.

Clr. McInerney: Dilemma, difficult providing water across boundaries, Greater Hume is part of Upper Murray, those things happen.

Clr. Verdon: Delay experienced in obtaining alternate access to this site, down the road could we look at compulsory acquisition?

General Manager: Could justify if we want to go down the path of compulsory acquisition, but there can be issues. Direct negotiation with people concerned is best way to go.

Clr. Funnell: Requested details on that matter?

General Manager: Will supply after meeting.

Clr. Kendall: Might be more cost effective to contribute towards an additional lane on Marshalls Creek Bridge (RMS), suggest getting costing?

Director of Engineering: We will review options. The design of the new treatment plant can use either access.

Clr. Hiscock: Welcomed Clr. Paul Funnell to the Committee.

Clr. Hiscock: Asked about the Award Winning Naturestrip Scheme, will it continue?

General Manager: The Naturestrip Scheme was partially funded by the Federal Government, finished last July. RWCC is currently promoting "Beyond the Naturestrip". If Council wanted to reintroduce such a program it could look at federal programmes.

Clr. Hiscock: Gained momentum at end of the period.

General Manager: NSW Water Management Conference in Port Macquarie, 25-27th August 2014, coincides with August Council Meeting, put item on next agenda to bring Council meeting forward.

Independent Panel Review Local Government Workshop in Wagga Wagga on 18th March 2014 and Albury 17th March 2014. Will advise Councillors by email to see if they want to attend.

Advised of late notice of Local Government Manager's Association Congress and Business Expo after April 2014 Council meeting

14/23 MOVED: Clr. McInerney SECONDED: Clr. Verdon that General Manager be authorised to attend the Local Government Manager's Association Congress and Business Expo in Melbourne from 30 April 2014 to 2 May 2014 inclusive.

Clr. Kendall: Suggested looking at what Conferences etc. in year to get approval.

General Manager: Will put list of upcoming Conferences etc. for next financial year on Agenda for June 2014 Meeting.

Chairperson: Next Meeting will be an Extraordinary Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 26th March 2014.

RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED COUNCIL

14/24 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Funnell and Negline that Council now resolve itself into Closed Council to consider business identified.

Council closed its meeting at 12.20 pm

Pursuant to section 10A(4), the public were invited to make representations to the Council meeting before any part of the meeting is closed, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

No members of the public were present or made representations.

CLOSED COUNCIL

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

14/25 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs Funnell and Negline that:

1. Pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business is to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of section 10A(2)(a) as outlined below.

GENERAL MANAGER'S PERFORMANCE REVIEW

This item is classified as confidential under Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- a) Personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

14/26 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and Negline that this report be received and that, under the provisions of Clause 8.3 of his employment contract, the total remuneration package of the General Manager be increased to \$197,544.82 commencing 17th January 2014.

OPEN COUNCIL

14/27 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs McInerney and Kreutzberger that Council move out of Closed Council and into Open Council.

DECISIONS READ ALOUD

The Chairman read aloud the decisions of the Council made whilst the meeting was closed to the public.

The Meeting concluded at 12.40pm
