

**MINUTES of the MEETING of RIVERINA WATER COUNTY COUNCIL,
held at 91 HAMMOND AVENUE, WAGGA WAGGA,
on WEDNESDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER 2015 at 9.40 am**

PRESENT: Clr. G Hiscock, Clr. R. Kendall, Clr. J. McInerney, Clr. D. Meyer OAM, Clr. K. Poynter and Clr. G Verdon.

The General Manager, Manager Corporate Services and Director of Engineering were in attendance.

Acting Chairperson Clr. Verdon took position of Chairperson in the absence of the chairperson for the initial part of the meeting.

15/101 Apologies for non-attendance was received from Clr. Negline and leave of absence was GRANTED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Meyer OAM.

Acting Chairperson Clr. Verdon requested that the General Manager seek clarification from Clr. Negline on his future arrangements for attendance at Council's meetings.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

15/102 Acting Chairperson Clr. Verdon read out the Acknowledgement of Country.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

15/103 No declarations of Pecuniary & Non-pecuniary interest received.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

15/104 The Minutes of the Meeting of 24th June 2015 having been circulated and read by the Members, were taken as being CONFIRMED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Kendall.

CORRESPONDENCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW: forwarding a copy of Weekly Circulars 25/15 –34/15.

STAFF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE: (15 July 2015) forwarding Minutes of the Staff Consultative Committee Meeting held 8 July 2015.

- HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE: (20 August 2015) forwarding Minutes of the Health and Safety Committee Meeting held 20 August 2015.
- 15/105 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Poynter and Meyer OAM that the correspondence be received.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – LIST OF INVESTMENTS

- 15/106 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Poynter that the report detailing Council's external investments for the months of June and July 2015 be received.

Cr Hiscock entered the meeting at this stage and assumed the chair, the time being 9:50am.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – FUND POSITION AS AT 30th JUNE 2015

- 15/107 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Poynter that the unaudited statements of the financial position as at 30th June 2015 be received.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2014/2015

- 15/108 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Poynter that:
- (i) Council's Draft Financial Statements be referred to audit by Council's auditors, Crowe Howarth,
 - (ii) Council make a resolution in accordance with section 413 (2c) that the annual financial report is in accordance with:
 - the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations made there under,
 - the Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements,
 - the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting,
 - presents fairly the councils operating results and financial position for the year,
 - accords with Council's accounting and other records, and
 - that Council is not aware of any matter that would render this report false or misleading in any way.
 - (iii) That Council adopt the abovementioned Statement and that the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and General Manager be authorised to complete the "Statement by Members of the Council" in relation to Council's 2014/15 Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Reports and be attached thereto.

- (iv) That Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to “finalise the date” at which the Audit Report and Financial Statements are to be presented to the public.

UNCOMPLETED CAPITAL WORKS 2014/2015

- 15/109 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Kendall that the expenditure totalling \$5,087,340 be transferred to an included in the 2015/2016 Capital Works Programme.

OUTSTANDING ACCESS CHARGES AND DEVELOPER SERVICING CHARGES

- 15/110 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Poynter that Council consider the Report “Outstanding Access Charges and Developer Servicing Charges“ whilst the meeting is closed to the public as it could relate to the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer, as prescribed by section 10A(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993.

OPERATIONAL PLAN- PERFORMANCE TARGETS

- 15/111 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Poynter that the report detailing progress, as at 30th June 2015, achieved towards the various objectives set out in the 2014/2015 Operational Plan be noted and received and that the target for Asset Replacement be amended from 80% to 85%, and that committed projects be separated in reports.

PERCUNARY INTEREST REGISTER – DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

- 15/112 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Poynter and Meyer OAM that the information be received and noted.

OVERDUE DEBTORS JUNE 2015

- 15/113 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and Kendall that the following report on overdue debtors for the period ended 30th June 2015 be received and noted.

ATTENDANCE AT LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERNAL AUDIT FORUM BY INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

- 15/114 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Meyer OAM that Council authorise the attendance by Mr David Maxwell, independent member of the Audit and Risk Committee, at the Institute of Internal Auditor’s 2015 Local Government Internal Audit Forum.

COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND TIMES

15/115 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Meyer OAM that Council's December Council Meeting be held on Friday 11th December 2015 commencing at 2.00 pm.

FEBRUARY 2016 COUNCIL MEETING

15/116 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Meyer OAM that Council's February meeting is held on Wednesday, 24th February 2016 commencing at 1.30 pm at the Greater Hume Shire Offices, Holbrook. This meeting to be preceded by a tour of Riverina Water facilities in the Greater Hume Shire region, commencing at 11.30 am at Holbrook.

INNOVATIVE RECRUITMENT PRACTICES

15/117 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Poynter and McInerney and that:

- a) the report of the General Manager be received and noted, and
- b) Council engage a consultant to make recommendations on the following:-
 - (i) Ways that work at Riverina Water County Council could be structured to better support workplace diversity, while maintaining service standards, and
 - (ii) Recruitment Practices to improve the diversity of qualified applicants

ART PROJECT – RURAL RESERVOIR

15/118 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Kendall that the General Manager proceed with further investigations into the painting of a mural on the Rural Reservoir on Willans Hill.

Clr. R. Kendall left meeting 10.40 am

DRAFT HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION

15/119 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Poynter that the draft constitution of the Health and Safety Committee be adopted.

DRAFT POLICY 1.10 COUNCILLOR'S EXPENSES AND FACILITIES

15/120 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Poynter that the Draft Policy 1.10 Councillor's Expenses and Facilities be adopted.

INTERNAL POLICY 1.1 – CORPORATE CREDIT CARDS

- 15/121 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and Poynter that Council adopt Internal Policy 1.1 Corporate Credit Cards, as submitted, subject to a minor amendment, removal the referral to pin number in paragraph 1.2

INTERNAL POLICY 1.4 CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE CONSTITUTION

- 15/122 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Verdon that Riverina Water County Council adopt Internal Policy 1.4 Consultative Committee Constitution.

INTERNAL POLICY 3.30 WORKPLACE SURVEILLANCE

- 15/123 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Poynter that Riverina Water County Council adopt Internal Policy 3.30 Workplace Surveillance.

DRAFT DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

- 15/124 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and McInerney that Riverina Water County Council adopt the Draft Drug and Alcohol Policy and Procedure.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SHEET

- 15/125 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Poynter and Meyer OAM that Council receive and note Council's Resolution Sheet.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF JUNE 2015

- 15/126 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Poynter that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of June 2015 be received and noted.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF JULY 2015

- 15/127 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer and McInerney that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of July 2015 be received and noted.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S ANNUAL REPORT STATISTICS FOR 2014/2015

- 15/128 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Poynter that the Director of Engineering's report covering 2014/2015 annual statistics be accepted and the contents noted.

CONTESTABILITY OF WORKS

- 15/129 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and Meyer OAM that:
- a) Expressions of Interest be sought from suitably qualified consultants for an external review of the contestability of capital works, and
 - b) The results of the procurement process be reported back to Council.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

15/130 Clr. Verdon: Requested that a meeting to be held with residents along Vincents Road, The Rock, to look at options, costings and other issues for water connections.

Director of Engineering: Pressure issues further out, there are about 16 residents interested in connecting at this stage.

15/131 General Manager: Advised Councillors of the passing of Clr. Kreutzberger's father.

15/132 Clr. Hiscock: Next Meeting will be Wednesday, 28th October 2015.

RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED COUNCIL

15/133 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Poynter that Council now resolve itself into Closed Council to consider business identified.

Council closed its meeting at 11.15 am.

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.

- 15/133 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Verdon 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)(e) as outlined above.
 2. The correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required under section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

OUTSTANDING ACCESS CHARGES AND DEVELOPER SERVICING CHARGES

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:

2(e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.

- 15/134 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs McInerney and Poynter that Council note the advice of the General Manager regarding the background to the write-off of the outstanding access charges and interest relating to the Sweetwater Retirement Village, Henty.
- 15/135 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Meyer OAM 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 11.20 am
