

**MINUTES of the MEETING of RIVERINA WATER COUNTY COUNCIL,
held at 91 HAMMOND AVENUE, WAGGA WAGGA,
on WEDNESDAY, 24th JUNE 2015 at 9.30 am**

PRESENT: Clr. P. Funnell, Clr. G Hiscock, Clr. R. Kendall, Clr. I. Kreutzberger, Clr. J. McInerney, Clr. D Meyer OAM, Clr. K. Poynter & Clr. G Verdon.

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

15/68 Chairperson Clr. Hiscock read out the Acknowledgement of Country.

15/69 Apologies for non-attendance was received from Clr. Negline and leave of absence was GRANTED on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger and Poynter.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

15/70 No declarations of Pecuniary & Non-pecuniary interest received.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

15/71 The Minutes of the Meeting of 22nd April 2015 having been circulated and read by the Members, were taken as being CONFIRMED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Meyer OAM.

CORRESPONDENCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW: forwarding a cop of Weekly Circulars 16/15 – 24/15.

STAFF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE: (20th May 2015) forwarding Minutes of the Staff Consultative Committee Meeting held 14th May 2015.

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE: (5th May 2015) forwarding Minutes of the Health and Safety Committee Meeting held 23rd April 2015.

LOCKHART SHIRE COUNCIL: (21st May 2015) responding to Council's letter regarding the payment of dividends.

15/72 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Poynter and Meyer OAM that the correspondence be received.

Clr. Funnell entered meeting 9.35 am

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – LIST OF INVESTMENTS

- 15/73 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Poynter that the report detailing Council's external investments for the months of April and May 2015 be received.

DETERMINATION OF REMUNERATION FEES FOR COUNCILLORS AND CHAIRPERSON 2015/2016

- 15/74 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Meyer OAM that the fees for 2015/2016 be set at:
- i. Councillors \$5,508, and
 - ii. Additional fee for Chairperson \$9,048.

ADOPTION OF REVISED DELIVERY PROGRAM 2015/2018 AND OPERATIONAL PLAN 2015/2016

- 15/75 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Poynter and Kendall that the Draft Revised Delivery Program 2015/2018 and Operation Plan 2015/16, as exhibited, following close of public comments, be adopted as Council's Delivery Program 2015/2018 and Operational Plan for 2015/16, subject to the following changes:

	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2015/16</u>
Water Tariffs (increase by %5) (Indicative) -First 1125kls/qtr.	\$1.33	\$1.40
-Balance	\$2.00	\$2.10
Search / Enquiry Fee- S6034 (as for property transfer)	\$70	\$75

MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2015/2016

- 15/76 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and Meyer OAM that the rates and charges be made for the 2015/2016 year, as outlined in the adopted Operational Plan 2015/2016.

OVERDUE DEBTORS MAY 2015

- 15/77 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and McInerney that the report on overdue debtors for the period ended 31st May 2015 be received and noted.

REPORT ON THE CONTRACTUAL CONDITIONS OF SENIOR STAFF

- 15/78 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Funnell that the report on the Contractual Conditions of Senior Staff be received and noted.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES

- 15/79 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Poynter that Council receive and note the Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held 28th May 2015 and endorse the recommendations contained therein.

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

- 15/80 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. McInerney and Poynter that Council appoint Mr. David Maxwell as an independent community member of Council's Audit and Risk Committee.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- 16/81 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Meyer OAM that:
- a) Council be represented at the Local Government NSW 2015 Annual Conference;
 - b) Council delegate be the Chairman and the Director of Engineering (observer); and
 - c) Clrs. Verdon and McInerney to attend as observers.

APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF RESERVES FOR SALES FLUCTUATIONS

- 15/82 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kendall and Kreutzberger that Riverina Water County Council determines that an appropriate maximum level of funds to be set aside as a Reserve for Sales Fluctuations be \$5 million and that funds be transferred to the Reserve from surplus funds.

ALLEGATIONS OF METER TAMPERING

- 15/83 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Funnell that Council consider the Report "Allegations of Meter Tampering" whilst the meeting is closed to the public as it could relate to information, the disclosure of which would, if disclosed, be likely to prejudice the maintenance of law, as prescribed by section 10A(2)(e) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**DESIGN DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND COMMISSIONING
OF 55ML/D WAGGA WAGGA WATER TREATMENT PLANT
CONTRACT NO.W195**

- 15/84 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Funnell that Council consider the Report “Design development, Construction, and Commissioning of 55ML/D Wagga Wagga Water Treatment Plant Contract No. W195” whilst the meeting is closed to the public as it could relate to commercial information, the disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, as prescribed by section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

POLICY 1.10 COUNCILLORS’ EXPENSES AND FACILITIES

- 15/85 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and Meyer OAM that the Draft Councillor’s Expenses and Facilities policy be placed on exhibition and that Council consider public comments prior to adopting or amending the Draft Policy at its Ordinary Meeting on 1st September 2015.

POLICY 4.1 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

- 15/86 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Poynter that
- a) Draft Policy 4.1 Equal Employment Opportunity and Anti-Discrimination be adopted.
- Amendment MOVED: Clr Poynter SECONDED: Clr. McInerney that:
- b) The General Manager report on innovative recruitment practices that may widen diversity of employment.

POLICY 4.2 SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

- 15/87 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger and Funnell that:
- a) Riverina Water County Council adopt Policy 4.2 Smoke Free Environment.
- Amendment MOVED: Clr. McInerney SECONDED: Kreutzberger that:
- b) item 2.2.3 be changed to “Provide support and encouragement for staff and councillors to “Quit” the smoking habit;”

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SHEET

- 15/88 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Kendall that Council receive and note Council’s Resolution Sheet and note advice received concerning planning for upgrades of the water reticulation system in The Rock.

Clr. Funnell left meeting 10.10 am.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF APRIL 2015

- 15/89 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs McInerney and Kendall that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of April 2015 be received and noted.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF MAY 2015

- 15/90 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Poynter and Meyer OAM that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of May 2015 be received and noted.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

- 15/91 Clr. Kendall: Congratulate Director of Engineering on progressing the Capital Works Program, great job, feedback has been good.
- 15/92 Clr. Verdon: Expressed appreciation for assistance given by Mr Peter Clifton to himself and a number of other residents of The Rock to improve water pressure.
- 15/93 Clr. Hiscock: Next Meeting will be Wednesday, 2nd September 2015.

RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED COUNCIL

- 15/94 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger and Verdon that Council now resolve itself into Closed Council to consider business identified.

Council closed its meeting at 10.35 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.

15/95 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Kreutzberger 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.

ALLEGATIONS OF METER TAMPERING

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.

15/97 RESOLVED Clr McNerney SECONDED: Clr. Poynter that in this instance Council waive the disconnection/reconnection fees and reiterate the seriousness of tempering with meters.

Clr. Kendall left meeting 11.20 am.

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND COMMISSIONING OF 55ML/D WAGGA WAGGA WATER TREATMENT PLANT CONTRACT NO. W.195

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(c) Commercial information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

15/98 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Verdon and Poynter that Riverina Water County Council accept UGL Engineering Pty Ltd tender W195 for the Design Development, Construction and commissioning of the 55 ML/D Wagga Wagga Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$35,485,667 incl. GST.

WRITE-OF ACCESS CHARGES – SWEETWATER, HENTY

General Manager advised that Sweetwater Retirement Village in Henty has gone into receivership. There has been a request for RWCC to write off outstanding access charges and interest (totalling \$23,217.97) with \$102,544 outstanding Development Service Charges being paid from the proceeds of the sale of the property.

- 15/99 RESOLVED, as a matter of urgency, on the motion of Ctrs. McInerney and Verdon that Council write off outstanding access charges and interest on the unsold lots of Sweetwater Village, Henty, totalling \$23,217.97, it being noted that the General Manager is to provide a detailed Report on this matter to Council's next Meeting.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DISPUTE

Director of Engineering gave a brief update of an Industrial Relations Dispute.

- 15/100 RESOLVED, on the motion of Ctrs. McInerney and Poynter 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 11.50 am
