

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Riverina Water County Council held on Tuesday 13 May 2025

The meeting of the Riverina Water County Council Board was declared open at 8:30am.

Present

Chairperson Tim Koschel
Councillor Gail Driscoll
Councillor Georgie Davies (via teams)
Councillor Jenny McKinnon (via teams)
Councillor Dallas Tout (via teams)
Councillor Allana Condon (via teams)
Councillor Brian Liston (via teams)
Councillor Lea Parker (via teams)

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer	(Andrew Crakanthorp)
Director Corporate Services	(Emily Tonacia)
Director Engineering	(Troy van Berkel)
Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer	(Melissa Vincent)
People & Culture Business Partner	(Susan Weston)

Livestreaming of Meeting

Board meetings, including public address speeches, are recorded and webcast live on Council's website. If you are addressing a meeting, your image, voice and name, will form part of the webcast.

Statement of Ethical Reminders

Board members are reminded of the Oath or Affirmation of Office that they made under Section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993. Board members and staff are also reminded of their obligations under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

Acknowledgment of Country

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Community members present.

Apologies

Nil

Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Councillor Gail Driscoll declared a non-pecuniary non-significant interest in CONF 1 2025 Award Negotiation Update and Harmonisation of Hours Matter, the reason being her daughter works for Riverina Water in the People and Culture Team and remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Councillor Jenny McKinnon declared a non-significant pecuniary interest in CONF 1 2025 Award Negotiation Update and Harmonisation of Hours Matter, the reason being a relative of hers works at Riverina Water and remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Councillor Allana Condron declared a non-pecuniary significant interest in CONF 1 2025 Award Negotiation Update and Harmonisation of Hours Matter, the reason being a friend's partner works at Riverina Water and remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Ms Emily Tonacia declared a non-significant pecuniary interest in CONF 1 2025 Award Negotiation Update and Harmonisation of Hours Matter, the reason being the report addresses industrial relation matters that could potentially impact her future condition of employment and remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Mr Troy van Berkel declared non-significant pecuniary interest in CONF 1 2025 Award Negotiation Update and Harmonisation of Hours Matter, the reason being the report addresses industrial relations matters that could potentially impact his future conditions of employment and remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Ms Susan Weston declared a non-significant pecuniary interest in CONF 1 2025 Award Negotiation Update and Harmonisation of Hours Matter, and remained in the meeting during the discussion.

The Chief Executive Officer noted the change in classes of declaration by the two Directors and placed on public record the issue for discussion today is the industrial action that has been commenced by the United Services Union and Electrical Trades Union in line with the Award. Staff have declared appropriate declarations in a previous meeting which specifically addressed remuneration matters in that meeting and notes he supports the previous and current declarations that have been made.

Closed Council

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.

25/064 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors A Condrón and G Driscoll

That the Council now resolve itself into a Closed Council, the time being 8:34am.

CARRIED

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.

Confidential Reports

CONF-1 2025 Award Negotiation Update and Harmonisation of Hours Matter**25/065 RESOLVED:**

On the Motion of Councillors A Condrón and B Liston

That the Board receive and note the report and delegate authority to the CEO to negotiate the 2025 Riverina Water Enterprise Award in the terms as recommended in this report, noting the verbal update to the recommendation made by the CEO during the meeting as it relates to existing Award conditions.

CARRIED

Reversion to Open Council

25/066 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors L Parker and A Condrón

That this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 9:05am.

CARRIED

Decisions Read Aloud

The Chief Executive Officer read aloud the decisions of the Council made whilst the meeting was closed to the public.

This concluded the meeting of the Riverina Water County Council Board which rose at 9:06am