

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Riverina Water County Council held on Thursday 11 September 2025

The meeting of the Riverina Water County Council Board was declared open at 4:01pm.

Present

Chairperson Tim Koschel (teams)
Councillor Gail Driscoll (teams)
Councillor Patrick Bourke (teams)
Councillor Georgie Davies (teams)
Councillor Jenny McKinnon (teams)
Councillor Allana Condon
Councillor Brian Liston (teams)
Councillor Lea Parker (teams)

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer	(Andrew Crakanthorp)
Director Corporate Services	(Emily Tonacia)
Director Engineering	(Troy van Berkel)
Manager, Finance and Sourcing	(Natasha Harris)
Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer	(Melissa Vincent)
Customer & Communication Team Leader	(Josh Lang)
IT Officer	(Alex Corneliusen)

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

An apology was received for non-attendance from Councillor Dallas Tout.

Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Nil

Open Reports

R1 Financial Statements 2024/2025

25/134 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors G Davies and L Parker

That:

- a) Council receive and note the unaudited 2024/25 Primary Financial Statements.
- b) Council's Draft Financial Statements be referred for audit by Council's auditors being the Audit Office of New South Wales.
- c) Council makes a resolution in accordance with Section 412(2c) that the annual financial report:
 - i. is in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations made there under.
 - ii. is in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements.
 - iii. is in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.
 - iv. presents fairly the council's operating results and financial position for the year
 - v. is in accordance with Council's accounting policies and other records.
 - vi. that Council is not aware of any matter that would render this report false or misleading in any way.
- d) Council adopts the above-mentioned statement and that the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer and Responsible Accounting Officer be authorised to complete the 'Statement by Members of the Council' in relation to Council's 2024/25 Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Reports and be attached thereto.
- e) The Chief Executive Officer be delegated the authority to issue the audited Financial Statements immediately upon receipt of the Auditor's Reports, unless a reapproval is required as determined by the auditors; and
- f) Council presents the final audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report to the public at its ordinary meeting to be held 23 October 2025.

CARRIED

R2 2025/26 Riverina Water grants program

25/135 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors J McKinnon and G Davies

That Council:

- a) Nominate one Board member and an alternate per Local Government Area, as required, to the Enriching Communities grants assessment panels**
- b) Delegate authority to the CEO (in conjunction with the Chairperson) to make changes to the assessment panel members due to unavailability or conflict of interest to be made at his discretion, should it be required.**

CARRIED

Panel nominations endorsed by Board are:

- Wagga Wagga City Council – Clr McKinnon, alternate Clr Davies
- Greater Hume Council – Clr Liston, alternate Clr Parker
- Lockhart Shire Council – Clr Driscoll
- Federation Council – Clr Bourke

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.

25/136 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors L Parker and G Davies

That the Council now resolve itself into a Closed Council, the time being 4:12pm.

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 PFAS Update

25/137 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors B Liston and G Driscoll

That Council:

- a) Note further updates regarding PFAS class action.**

- b) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer and Chair to review legal advice and determine the Council's participation in the class action outlined in the report.

CARRIED

Reversion to Open Council

25/138 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors G Davies and L Parker

That this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 4:19pm.

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 4:20pm.