

# Minutes of the meeting of Riverina Water County Council held at 91 Hammond Avenue, Wagga Wagga on Wednesday 30 October 2019 at 9:30 am

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**Present**       Clr.P.Bourke, Clr.P.Funnell, Clr.V.Keenan, Clr.T.Koschel, Clr.D.Meyer OAM, Clr.T.Quinn, Clr.G.Verdon and Clr.G.Conkey

General Manager Andrew Crakanthorp, Director of Engineering Bede Spannagle, Manager Corporate Services Emily Tonacia, Minute Secretary Alison Herbst, Accountant Kate Pellow and Governance & Records Officer Wendy Reichelt were in attendance.

## Acknowledgment of Country

## Apologies

**19/138**       Apologies for non-attendance were received from Clr.Y. Braid OAM and a leave of absence was GRANTED on the motion of Clrs Funnell and Koschel.

**Carried**

## Declaration of pecuniary & non-pecuniary interest

Clr.Koschel declared a non-pecuniary, non-significant interest during discussion of Item 6 (External Investments Reports) due to his employment as Regional Manager at the Bendigo Bank. Cr Koschel advised he would leave the room during discussion of the matter

## Confirmation of minutes

**19/139**       The minutes of the meeting of 21 August 2019 having been circulated and read by Members, were taken as being **confirmed** on the motion of Clrs Meyer OAM and Quinn.

**Carried**

## Correspondence

Local Government: NSW Weekly Circulars: previously forwarded to Councillors by Constituent Councils

Work Health & Safety Committee: Forwarding a copy of Minutes of meeting held 17 October 2019

Staff Consultative Committee: Forwarding a copy of Minutes of meeting held 26 September 2019

**19/140**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Koschel and Bourke that the correspondence be received.

**Carried**

## General Manager's Report

### Election Of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

**19/141**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Quinn and Keenan that Council conduct the election of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson by the open voting method being a show of hands, for the one year period from 30 September 2019 to October 2020.

**Carried**

The Chairperson, Clr Verdon, vacated the Chair.

The Returning officer, Mr Crakanthorp proceeded to conduct the election.

There was only one nomination for the office of Chairperson that being Clr. Verdon.

Mr Crakanthorp declared Clr Verdon duly elected to the position of Chairperson for the ensuing twelve months.

There was only one nomination for the office of Deputy Chairperson that being Clr. Funnell.

Mr Crakanthorp declared Clr Funnell duly elected to the position of Deputy Chairperson for the ensuing twelve months.

The Chairperson, Clr Verdon took the chair.

- 19/142**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Koschel and Conkey that Council suspend standing orders. The time being 9.37am. Ms. Danielle Mackenzie from Crowe addressed the meeting in relation to the 2018/19 Financial Statements.

**Carried**

At this stage of the meeting Ms Mackenzie left the meeting

- 19/143**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Keenan and Funnell that Council standing orders be resumed. The time being 9.42 am.

**Carried**

### **Delegation of Authority to Chairperson**

- 19/144**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Conkey and Myer that in accordance with Section 377 Local Government Act 1993, Council ratify and grant the delegations as set out in the Delegations of Authority Register to the Chairperson.

**Carried**

### **Financial Statements 2018/2019**

- 19/145**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Funnell and Keenan that the 2018/2019 Audited Financial Statements be received.

**Carried**

### **Quarterly Budget Review – Period Ended 30 September 2019**

- 19/146**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Quinn and Conkey that the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ended 30 September 2019 be received and adopted.

**Carried**

At this stage of the meeting Kate Pellow left meeting at 9.55am

### **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest Returns 2018 - 2019**

- 19/147**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Koschel and Conkey that the register of pecuniary interest returns, containing current returns of board members and designated persons for the period 1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019 be tabled in accordance with Clause 4.21 of the Riverina Water Code of Conduct.

**Carried**

Clr Koschel left the meeting at 9.55am

### **External Investments Reports**

- 19/148**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Conkey and Keenan that the report detailing Council's external investments for the months of August and September 2019 be received.

**Carried**

Clr Koschel returned to the meeting at 10am

### **Minutes of Audit & Risk Committee Meeting held 18 September 2019**

- 19/149**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Quinn and Keenan that the Minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee be received and noted.

**Carried**

### **Community Grants Program 2019/2020**

- 19/150**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Meyer OAM and Keenan that Council
- a. approve the successful applications for the 2019/20 Community Grants Program as detailed in the report totalling \$389,867
  - b. approve the rolling over of the 2019/20 unexpended funds for Federation Council totalling \$53,360, and Greater Hume Council totalling \$56,773 to their Local Government Area allocation for the 2020/21 Community Grants program.

**Carried**

### **Annual Customer Survey**

- 19/151**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Funnell and Keenan that
- a. Council consider possible amendments to the Riverina Water County Council Proclamation and authorise the General Manager and Chairperson to write to the Minister requesting the desired amendments in the form of a survey every two years; and
  - b. Authorise the General Manager to revise the scope for the 2020 Annual Customer Survey to focus on water restriction behaviours and attitudes.

**Carried**

## **Lost Time Injury Statistics 2019/20**

**19/152**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Koschel and Bourke that the quarterly statistics report on Lost Time Injuries for the 2019 / 2020 financial year to date be received and noted.

**Carried**

## **Proclamation of Riverina Water County Council and associated matter with Greater Hume Council**

**19/153**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Meyer OAM and Funnell that

- a. Council write to the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, NSW Minister for Water and advise that Council has recently been made of aware of a legislative requirement on Council to prepare a report to the Minister on certain matters at intervals not more than three years.
- b. Council advise the Minister that it proposes to engage a third party consultant to undertake the review when both Councils have adopted their respective IWCMs (both of which are currently at varying stages of review) but no later than September 2020.

**Carried**

## **Draft Donation Policy 1.25**

**19/154**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Meyer OAM and Keenan that Council:

Endorse draft Policy 1.25 Donations Policy and place it on public exhibition from 31 October to 29 November 2019 and invite public submissions on the draft policy during that period.

Receive a further report following the public exhibition and submission period:

Addressing any submissions made in respect of the proposed Policy 1.25 Donations Policy

Proposing adoption of the Policy unless there are any recommended amendments deemed to be substantial and requiring a further public exhibition period.

**Carried**

## **Preservation, Capture, Storage and Maintenance of Riverina Water Records**

- 19/155**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Koschel and Funnell that Council
- a. approve allocation of budget 2019/20 to include extra staffing for records digitising and archiving advice - \$26,400
  - b. approve allocation of budget 2019/20 to include swipe card access for Depot records room - \$4,000

**Carried**

Wendy Reichelt left the meeting at 10.40am

## **Council Resolution Sheet**

- 19/156**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Funnell and Bourke that the report be received

**Carried**

## **Director of Engineering Report**

### **Works Report covering August 2019 and September 2019**

- 19/157**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Keenan and Koschel that Director of Engineering's reports be received.

**Carried**

## **Federation Council request to use capacity in the Urana Raw water pipeline**

- 19/158**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Keenan and Koschel that
- a. Council provide in principle agreement for Federation Council to utilise spare capacity in the Urana raw water trunk main, up to 240M/L per year.
  - b. Council provide technical support and advice for the offtake pipeline to the Urana Aquatic Centre and any future service agreement to allow the operation of the above proposal.

**Carried**

## Update of The Rock Depot Upgrade project

**19/159**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Meyer OAM and Funnell that Council receive and note the report on The Rock Depot upgrade.

**Carried**

## PFAS Update

**19/160**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Keenan and Koschel that Council conduct PFAS sampling at its surface water intake (Murrumbidgee River) and the East Wagga bores (ie. Numbers 2 and 3), in addition to monitoring outlined in the PMAP.

**Carried**

## IWCM Update

**19/161**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Funnell and Meyer OAM that Council note the update report on the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy project.

**Carried**

## Contract W195 – Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Progress Report

**19/162**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Conkey and Koschel that Council consider the report "Contract w195 – Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Progress Report", whilst the meeting is closed to the public, as it concerns litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege as prescribed by Section 10A(2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**Carried**

## Purchase of Land for Future Operational Requirements

- 19/163**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Conkey and Koschel that Council consider the report "Purchase of Land for Future Operational Requirements", whilst the meeting is closed to the public, as it relates to commercial information the disclosure of which would prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, as prescribed by Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**Carried**

## Questions and statements

Clr.P.Bourke – Advised of extension of pipeline proposal in Federation Council.

Clr.V.Keenan – Thanks to Riverina Water for participation in Fusion and contributing to success of event.

Clr.P.Funnell – Discussed request from a resident in Booroma Street North Wagga for Time Payment arrangement. The General Manager supported a suggestion by the Chairperson that a report on time payment options for Developer Service Charges be included in agenda for the December Board Meeting.

Clr.G.Conkey – Water restrictions, responsibility to encourage people to preserve water. Requested Riverina Water to provide a campaign on preserving water and also advise Level 1 restrictions. Paper to be on December agenda for further discussion and decision on future restrictions.

Chairman – Thanks to Riverina Water staff and those on panels for involvement and success of Community Grants Program.

General Manager – Josh Lang has been employed as Community Engagement Officer, will commence position in a few weeks. Annual report is completed.

## Resolution to move into closed council

- 19/164**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Funnell and Keenan now resolve itself into Closed Council to consider the business referenced above

**Carried**

Greg Vidler entered meeting at 11.40am



## **Council closed its meeting to the public at 11.40am**

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.

### **Contract W195 – Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Progress Report Electricity supply contract**

**19/165**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Quinn and Keenan that Council receive and note the progress report for Contract W195- Water Treatment Plant.

**Carried**

### **Purchase of Land for Future Operational Requirements**

**19/166**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Koschel and Funnell that Council

1. Purchase land zoned RU1 and B6 at 45 Koorringal Rd, comprising of:  
    Lot 1, DP 136233  
    Lot 1, DP 154512  
    Lot 2, DP 154512  
    Lot 3, DP 542294  
  
    for operational requirements in accordance with Section 187 of the Local Government Act 1993. Refer to Appendix 2, land shaded blue and red on aerial image.
2. Delegate authority to the General Manager to negotiate the purchase of land in accordance with the financial information contained in the report and sign the relevant sale documents.
3. Affix Council's Common Seal to documentation as required.

**Carried**

## Open Council

**19/167**      **Resolved** on the motion of Clrs Bourke and Keenan that Council move out of Closed Council and into Open Council.

### Decisions Read Aloud

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

**The meeting concluded at 12.05 pm**