

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Riverina Water County Council held on Thursday 31 March 2022

The meeting of the Riverina Water County Council Board was declared open at 9:30am.

Present

Councillor Tim Koschel (Chairperson)
Councillor Doug Meyer OAM
Councillor Pat Bourke
Councillor Dan Hayes
Councillor Georgie Davies
Councillor Michael Henderson
Councillor Jenny McKinnon

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer	(Andrew Crakanthorp) (via teams)
Director Engineering	(Bede Spannagle)
Director Corporate Services	(Emily Tonacia)
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer	(Melissa Vincent)
Manager Projects	(Greg Vidler)

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.

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.

Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor Tony Quinn and Councillor Gail Driscoll.

Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Nil

Open Reports

R1 Minutes of Board Meeting held 24 February 2022

22/033 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors G Davies and D Meyer OAM

That Council adopt the minutes of the Board Meeting held on 24 February 2022.

CARRIED

R2 Purchase of a 133ML Lower Billabong Water Source

22/034 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Meyer OAM and D Hayes

That Council grants the Chief Executive Officer the necessary delegations to finalise the legal transfer of Water Access License (WAL33062) to Riverina Water, under section 377 of the NSW Local Government Act.

CARRIED

Questions and statements

The following questions and statements were made by those present:

1. Mr Spannagle – during the workshop in February, it was resolved to assist Greater Hume Council with work on the Henty Showground fire connection. This work has been undertaken and was completed this week.
2. Mr Crakanthorp – At the February meeting, the Board resolved to complete a customer survey, this survey is proceeding, and he thanked Emily and Josh for their work in preparing the survey. Council staff will be using survey monkey to conduct survey, using the same questions as the previous survey. This will allow comparison between the results of the last survey and this survey. The survey will be incentivised to encourage responses and there will be a competition in which customers can enter a draw to win a years worth of their water bills up to \$800. Staff are not eligible to enter. Survey will commence on Friday. Councillor Hayes enquired regarding what would happen if a renter wins? Ms Tonacia advised there are a set of complex terms and conditions for the competition and one of those conditions is you must be a registered owner to be eligible to win.
3. Mr Spannagle asked Mr Crakanthorp to provide a update on COVID-19 impact on general staffing issues that are currently being experienced. Riverina Water is currently being impacted significantly as virus spreads through the community. Arranged to have RATs available that can be provide to staff if they become symptomatic at work. If positive they need to self-isolate. It is becoming challenging to maintain normal staffing levels. Reminding staff to get boosters and be as cautious as they can. Continuing to isolate critical staff, currently finding staff are needing to isolate as close

contacts. Customer Service remains open at this stage. Councillor Hayes sought confirmation that water treatment plant operators are deemed essential workers and if necessary continue to work if deemed close contact, this was confirmed accurate. Councillor Hayes also asked if Riverina Water has looked into purchasing a HVAC to help in limiting spread of virus? Mr Crakanthorp advised that no this has not yet been considered and advised that it will be added to the Executive Management Team agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

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.

22/035 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Meyer OAM and J McKinnon

That the Council now resolve itself into a Closed Council, the time being 9:42am.

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 Tender for Specification W278 Roof Sheetting, Gutters, Colorbond Custom orb and Insulated Wall Panels

22/036 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors M Henderson and G Davies

That Council:

- 1. Accepts the Tender Submission from 000 Plumbing Services Australia Pty Ltd under a lump sum contract for \$366,850 excl. GST, in accordance with Specification W280 and the terms of the contract of engagement.**
- 2. Authorise the CEO to execute the documents relating to the contract.**

CARRIED

Reversion to Open Council

22/037 **RESOLVED:**

On the Motion of Councillors G Davies and J McKinnon

That this meeting of the Closed Council revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 9:49am.

CARRIED

Decisions Read Aloud

The Director Engineering 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 9:51am