

Minutes of the Meeting of Riverina Water County Council held on Wednesday 22 June 2022

The meeting of the Riverina Water County Council Board was declared open at 9:32am.

Present

Chairperson Tim Koschel
Councillor Doug Meyer OAM
Councillor Tony Quinn
Councillor Dan Hayes
Councillor Georgie Davies (via Teams)
Councillor Michael Henderson
Councillor Jenny McKinnon

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer	(Andrew Crakanthorp)
Director Corporate Services	(Emily Tonacia)
Director Engineering	(Bede Spannagle)
Customer & Communications Team Leader	(Joshua Lang)
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer	(Melissa Vincent)
Governance & Records Officer	(Wendy Reichelt)
ICT Officer	(Alan Eacott)

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

22/081 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors T Quinn and D Meyer OAM

That apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor Pat Bourke and Councillor Gail Driscoll.

CARRIED

Declaration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests

Chairperson Tim Koschel declared a non-pecuniary interest in R2 List of Investments the reason being he works for a bank and remained in the meeting during the discussion.

Mr Andrew Crakanthorp declared a non-pecuniary interest in R15 Contractual Conditions of Senior Staff the reason being he is named in the report and remained in the meeting.

Ms Emily Tonacia declared a non-pecuniary interest in R15 Contractual Conditions of Senior Staff the reason being she is named in the report and remained in the meeting.

Mr Bede Spannagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in R15 Contractual Conditions of Senior Staff the reason being he is named in the report and remained in the meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes

22/082 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Meyer OAM and T Quinn

That the minutes of the meeting of 27 April 2022], having been circulated and read by Members, were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

Correspondence

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

Staff Consultative Committee: Forwarding a copy of Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2022

Work Health & Safety Committee: Forwarding a copy of Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2022

22/083

RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors J McKinnon and D Meyer OAM

That the correspondence be received.

CARRIED

Procedural motion – Englobo

22/084

RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That the standing orders be varied for the meeting as set out hereunder:

- **Items where the Board Members intent to vote against the recommendation;**
- **Items where the Board members wish to speak on.**

That R1, R4-7, R15-18, R22, R24, Conf 1 be adopted as recommended in the business paper.

Cr Quinn requested that his vote against the motion be recorded

CARRIED

22/085

RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That Council suspend standing orders.

The time at this stage was 9:45am.

CARRIED

22/086

RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors T Quinn and D Hayes

That Council resume standing orders.

The time at this stage was 10:01am.

CARRIED

Open Reports

R1 Code of Meeting Practice Policy 1.02

22/087 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That Council adopt the Code of Meeting Practice Policy 1.02

CARRIED

R2 List of Investments

22/088 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors T Quinn and J McKinnon

That Council receive and note the report detailing external investments for the months of April 2022 and May 2022.

CARRIED

R3 Annual Hospital Allowance

A motion was moved by Councillors J McKinnon and M Henderson

That:

- a) Council discontinues providing private and public hospitals in the Riverina Water with an exemption for the payment of an access charge from 1 July 2022 in accordance with Section 558(5) of the Local Government Act;
- b) Council discontinues providing an annual allowance for public and private hospitals in the Riverina Water supply area from 1 July 2022 in accordance with Section 558(5) of the Local Government Act; and
- c) Council writes to the public and private hospitals that currently receive the allowance to advise of the changes.

An AMENDMENT was moved by Councillor D Hayes and T Quinn

That:

- a) Council discontinues providing private hospitals in the Riverina Water supply area with an exemption for the payment of an access charge from 1 July 2022 in accordance with Section 558(5) of the Local Government Act;
- b) Council discontinues providing an annual allowance for private hospitals in the Riverina Water supply area from 1 July 2022 in accordance with Section 558(5) of the Local Government Act; and
- c) Council writes to the private hospitals that currently receive the allowance to advise of the changes.

- d) Council increase allowance to all public hospitals to 300kl per patient per day in accordance with Section 558(5) of the Local Government Act

During debate of the amendment a foreshadowed amendment was discussed.

LOST

An AMENDMENT was moved by Councillors D Meyer OAM and T Quinn

That the report on Annual Hospital Allowance lay on the table and bring a further report to the next meeting

22/089 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Meyer OAM and T Quinn

That the report on Annual Hospital Allowance lay on the table and bring a further report to the next meeting.

CARRIED

Record of voting on the Motion

For the Motion

Cr T Koschel
Cr D Meyer
Cr T Quinn
Cr D Hayes
Cr M Henderson
Cr J McKinnon

Against the Motion

Cr G Davies

R4 Delivery Program 2022/23 - 2025/26 and Operational Plan 2022/23

22/090 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That the:

- a) Draft Delivery Program 2022/23 – 2025/26 and the draft Operational Plan 2022/23, as exhibited and following close of public comments, be adopted as Council's Delivery Program 2022/23 – 2025/26 and Operational Plan 2022/23, subject to the proposed changes listed in the body of this report; and**
- b) Fees and charges be made for the 2022/23 financial year, as outlines in the draft Operational Plan 2022/23.**

CARRIED

R5 Rescission of Policies

22/091 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That Council:

- a) Rescind Policy 1.6 Conflicts of Interest**
- b) Rescind Policy 2.02 Fixed Standpipes for Public Use**

CARRIED

R6 Board Member Training & Development Policy

22/092 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That Council adopt Policy 1.08 Board Member Training & Development.

CARRIED

R7 Determination of fees for board members and chairperson from 1 July 2022

22/093 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That Council approve a 2.0% increase in member and chairperson fees for 2022/2023 in line with the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal determination.

CARRIED

R8 Pensioner Concession Rebates Policy 2.7

22/094 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors J McKinnon and M Henderson

That Council adopt the Pensioner Concession Rebates Policy 2.7

CARRIED

R9 2022 Customer Satisfaction Survey

22/095 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and J McKinnon

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the report; and**
- b) Acknowledge and thank staff for their ongoing good work as reflected in the consistent results of the community satisfaction survey results year-on-year**

CARRIED

R10 2021-22 Donations and Sponsorships

22/096 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors T Quinn and D Meyer OAM

That Council receives and notes the report.

CARRIED

R11 Draft Debt Management and Hardship Policy

22/097 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors T Quinn and D Meyer OAM

That Council:

- a) Endorse the draft policy and place it on public exhibition for 28 days until 22 July 2022 and invite public submissions on the draft policy during that period**
- b) Receive a further report following the public exhibition and submission period:**
 - i. Addressing any submissions made in respect of the proposed policy**
 - ii. Proposing adoption of the policy unless there are any recommended amendments deemed to be substantial and requiring a further public exhibition period.**

CARRIED

R12 Business Activity Strategic Plan 2022-2032

22/098 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors J McKinnon and D Hayes

That Council adopt the Business Activity Strategic Plan 2022-2032, noting no public submissions were received during the exhibition period.

CARRIED

Bede Spannagle left the meeting at 10:48am

Bede Spannagle returned to the meeting at 10:50

Doug Meyer left the meeting at 10:51am

Doug Meyer returned to the meeting at 10:53am

R13 Award Negotiation Update

22/099 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Meyer OAM and T Quinn

That Council

- a) agrees to enter into an Enterprise Award for a period of three years with wage increases as follows:
 - 4.0% effective 1st July 2022,**
 - 3.0% effective 1st July 2023 and**
 - 3.0% effective 1st July 2024.****
- b) authorise the CEO to prepare and submit a new “Single Issue” Enterprise Agreement to the NSW Industrial Relations Commission regarding the Employee Loyalty/Attendance Bonus and affix the Council Seal to the documents at the appropriate time**
- c) amend its 2022/23 Operational Plan to increase expenditure in relation to employee expenses by \$128,000**

CARRIED

R14 Riverina Joint Organisation

22/100 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and T Quinn

That Council receive and note the report

CARRIED

R15 Contractual Conditions of Senior Staff

22/101 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That the report on the contractual conditions of senior staff be received and noted.

CARRIED

R16 Lost Time Injury Statistics July 2021 - May 2022

22/102 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That Council receive and note the statistics report for Lost Time Injuries for the period July 2021 to May 2022.

CARRIED

R17 Development Servicing Plan for Water Supply

22/103 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That Riverina Water adopt the Development Servicing Plan for Water Supply 2022, noting that no public submissions were received during the exhibition period.

CARRIED

R18 Willans Hill Land Matters

22/104 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That Council;

- a) Create an easement for Right of Way at Lot 22 DP 835331 as shown in the unregistered plan, to establish right of access to Willans Hill reservoirs and pump station.**
- b) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to establish the easement for Right of Way.**
- c) Affix Council's Common Seal to all documents as required.**

CARRIED

R19 Backflow Prevention Policy 2.1

22/105 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That Council:

- a) review the amended Riverina Water Backflow Prevention Policy 2.1
- b) note that the Backflow Prevention Policy will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days following review by the Board; and
- c) note that following the exhibition period, the Backflow Prevention Policy 2.1 will be presented to the board for adoption at its meeting in August 2022.

CARRIED

R20 Works Report covering April 2022

22/106 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and MH Henderson

That the Works Report covering April 2022 be received and noted

CARRIED

R21 Works Report covering May 2022

22/107 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and D Meyer OAM

That the Works Report covering May 2022 be received and noted.

CARRIED

R22 Council Resolution Sheet

22/108 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That the report detailing the status of the active resolutions of Council be received.

CARRIED

R23 Audit Risk & Improvement Committee Recruitment of Independent Member

22/109 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and T Quinn

That Council:

- a) Note that an initial recruitment process for an independent ARIC member resulted in no suitable applicant being selected and recommended; and**
- b) Note that further recruitment that utilises additional advertisement options will be undertaken in July 2022.**

CARRIED

Committee Minutes

M1 Minutes of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee held on 5 May 2022

22/110 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That Council receive and note the minutes and Chair report from the 5 May 2022 ARIC meeting.

CARRIED

Questions and statements

The following questions and statements were made by those present:

1. Clr Meyer requested that if proceeding with Englobo in subsequent meetings if a summary of reports with page numbers can be provided. Clr Koschel advised he would liaise with the Chief Executive Officer to have this provided for future meetings.
2. Mr Spannagle made two presentations to the Board. The first award for a highly commended award from Institute of Public Works at the NSW conference held in May, the award was received by Chris Moosbrugger in the category of innovation in water and waste water for the Wagga Wagga Water Treatment Plant, The second award was from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Water Utility Improvement Program. Mr Spannagle received a recognition of service award in appreciation for Riverina Water's commitment and contribution of the program when attending OzWater 2022.
3. Clr Davies advised she had received several questions from the public regarding Riverina Waters requirement to publish water quality data. Mr Spannagle advised that Council is not required to publish publicly but does report daily, weekly and monthly data that are required to DPE and NSW Health as well as any reported incidents.
4. Clr Davies followed up on a question from the April Board meeting where she enquired if there was a reason that both Wagga Wagga City Council and Riverina Water completed final inspections on properties that had undertaken major renovations. Clr

Koschel confirmed that the Manager Works has responded to this enquiry following that meeting via email and will forward this email to Clr Davies for information.

5. Clr Koschel reminded Board members that required corporate wardrobe to please purchase items and pass items on for embroidery.

Confidential Reports

CONF-1 Tender for Specification W290 Commissioning & Final Documentation for the Wagga Wagga WTP

22/111 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of Councillors D Hayes and JM McKinnon

That Council

- a) **Accepts the Tender Submission from City Water Technology Pty Ltd under a lump sum contract for \$1,510,419.00 excl. GST, in accordance with Specification W290 and the terms of the contract of engagement.**
- b) **Authorise the CEO to execute the documents relating to the contract.**

CARRIED

This concluded the meeting of the Riverina Water County Council Board which rose at 11:36am