

**MINUTES of the MEETING of RIVERINA WATER COUNTY COUNCIL,
held at 91 HAMMOND AVENUE, WAGGA WAGGA,
on WEDNESDAY, 27th FEBRUARY 2019 at 9.30 am**

PRESENT: Clr. P. Bourke, Clr. Y. Braid OAM, Clr. G. Conkey OAM, Clr. V. Keenan Clr. T. Koschel, Clr. D. Meyer OAM, Clr. T. Quinn and Clr. G. Verdon.

The General Manager, Director of Engineering, Manager Corporate Services, Manager Projects, Minute Secretary and Community Engagement Officer were in attendance.

19/01 An apology for non-attendance was received from Clr. P. Funnell, and a leave of absence for was GRANTED on the motion of Clrs. Keenan and Koschel.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY & NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

19/02 No declarations of Pecuniary & Non-pecuniary interest received.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

19/03 The Minutes of the Meeting of 12th December 2018 having been circulated and read by the Members, were taken as being CONFIRMED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Quinn.

CORRESPONDENCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW WEEKLY CIRCULARS: previously forwarded to Councillors by Constituent Councils.

STAFF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE: (January 2019) forwarding a copy of Minutes of Meeting held 31st January 2019.

WORK HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE: (February 2019) forwarding a copy of Minutes of Meeting held 13th February 2019.

19/04 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Quinn and Keenan that the correspondence be received.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – LIST OF INVESTMENTS

19/05 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Koschel and Braid OAM that the report detailing Council's external investments for the months of December 2018 and January 2019 be received.

QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW – PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2018

19/06 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Keenan and Meyer OAM that the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ended 31st December 2018 be received and adopted.

OPERATIONAL PLAN – PERFORMANCE TARGETS

19/07 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Conkey OAM and Braid OAM that the report detailing progress as at 31st December 2018, achieved towards the various objectives set out in the 2018/2019 Operational Plan be noted and received.

LOST TIME INJURY STATISTICS 2018/19

19/08 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Koschel and Keenan that the quarterly statistics report on Lost Time Injuries for the 2018/2019 financial year to date be received and noted.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE OF AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

19/09 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Keenan and Meyer OAM that Council appoint a representative to the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee.

The Chairman sought nominations for the vacant position of alternate delegate to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. There being only one nomination, that being Clr Quinn, the Chairman declared Clr Quinn duly elected.

JOINT ORGANISATIONS UPDATE

19/10 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Keenan that Council:

- a) Not seek membership of Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation at this time, noting that Councillor Pat Bourke, Mayor Federation Council, sits on the Board of Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation.
- b) Review this decision following the local government elections in September 2020.

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

19/11 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs Meyer OAM and Koschel that the Council receive and note the report.

Ryan Lipman left the meeting 10.10 am

PROPOSED DROUGHT RELIEF ASSISTANCE

19/12 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Conkey OAM and Quinn that Council immediately introduce an initial drought relief package as follows:

- (a) Residents of the Riverina Water County Council area whose residence is not able to be connected to a reticulated water supply will be eligible to access Council operated standpipes throughout the Council area.
- (b) Eligible residents will be issued with an appropriate electronic key at a reduced cost of \$100 (current cost is \$295), fully refundable when the resident no longer requires access to Council standpipes, or, by 31 December 2019 whichever is the sooner on return of the key.
- (c) All water purchased by eligible residents under this arrangement, including residents who already hold an electronic key, will be charged at the current minimum price of \$1.46kl.
- (d) Contractors delivering potable water to residents of Riverina Water County Council area will be charged \$1.46kl for water (as opposed to the current price of \$3.24kl), subject to confirmation being supplied by the contractor that the water was delivered for domestic use.
- (e) This initial relief package will conclude 31 December 2019 at which time Council will consider further drought assistance should conditions remain unchanged or worsen.

PROPOSED NEW MEETING ROOM

19/13 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Koschel and Conkey OAM that Council:

- a) Increase the original budget by \$40,000 for the Council room construction & fit out.
- b) Increase budget by \$21,500 for the provision of IT equipment consistent with the requirements of a Council room & staff training room.
- c) Increase budget by \$16,000 for the provision of furniture & fittings consistent with the requirements of a Council room & staff training room.

ADOPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY 5.0

19/14

RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Quinn and Braid OAM that Council:

(a) notes that there no submissions received during the exhibition period for Policy 5.0 Environmental Policy

(b) adopts Policy 5.0 Environmental Policy

ADOPTION OF WATER RESTRICTIONS POLICY 2.6

19/15

RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Keenan and Meyer OAM that:

(a) notes the two (2) submissions received during the exhibition period for Policy 2.6 Water Restrictions

(b) adopt Policy 2.6 Water restrictions without further amendment.

ADOPTION OF POLICY IP2.5 RURAL SUBTRACT METERS

19/16

RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Keenan that Council:

(a) note the one submission received during the exhibition period for Policy IP2.5 Rural Subtract Meters

(b) adopt Policy IP2.5 Rural Subtract Meters without further amendment.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SHEET

19/17

RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Keenan that Council receive and note Council's Resolution Sheet.

Ryan Lipman re-entered meeting 10.40 am

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 2018

19/18

RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Koschel and Meyer OAM that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of December 2018 be received and noted.

DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF JANUARY 2019

19/19

RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Koschel and Meyer OAM that the Director of Engineering's report covering the month of January 2019 be received and noted.

CONTRACT W195 – WATER TREATMENT PLANT (WTP) PROGRESS REPORTS

19/20 RESOLVED on the motion of Clrs. Meyer OAM and Conkey OAM that Council receive and note the report.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

19/21 Clr. Meyer OAM: Regarding email on water volume in Henty, consumers are concerned?

Director of Engineering: Not a reticulation issue. Should have 32m static pressure. No current test flow pressure at present, will obtain and report back on it.

19/22 Clr. Conkey OAM: Regarding the recent Touch Football Carnival held in Wagga Wagga, 198 teams with 10,000 visitors. Most impressed with grounds and water stations provided by Riverina Water. Good feedback, and an extra water (permanent) water fill station would be good.

19/23 Clr. Conkey OAM: Wagga Wagga City Council comments about Riverina Water in Wagga Daily Advertiser.

Chairperson: Deputy Chairperson not at today's meeting however he had previously advised that he had submitted a "letter to the editor" in response to the article by Cr Rod Kendall.

19/24 Clr. Keenan: From report earlier, could Council consider naming the new Council Meeting Room after a former General Manager/Councillor/Engineer.

Chairperson: Supports the concept in principle.

19/25 Chairperson: Recent statements a farmer lavishing praise on Riverina Water, pleased to work with Riverina Water.

19/26 Both political parties won't take away management of water supply from Councils. Thank staff for their submission National Performance Reporting – should include local water authorities in NSW and Qld.

19/27 General Manager: Update on Award Negotiations – 2 meetings with both parties, the Award ends June 2019. Meet again next Wednesday 6th March with discussion on rates of pay at conclusion. Will provide an update by end next week, will impact on the budget.

19/28 Advised Council of a tour by General Manager of our 4 constituent Councils of Riverina Water's area of supply on 26 March 2019 (9.30 am to 3.30 pm). Sending invitations out this week.

Workshop next Monday at WWCC on Lake Albert project. (apology Clr. Verdon).

Riverina Water workshop on 3rd April 2019

19/29 Director of Engineering: Gave update on WaterAid Nepal Project advising that a Council staff member would be part of a working group travelling to Nepal to undertake charity work with South Wagga Rotary Club

19/30 Clr. Verdon: Requested if the date of the April meeting could be rescheduled.

RESOLVED: on the motion of Clrs Keenan and Conkey that the next meeting of the Board will be Tuesday 23 April in Holbrook.

RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED COUNCIL

19/31 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs Keenan and Quinn that Council now resolve itself into Closed Council to consider business identified.

Council closed its meeting to the public at 10.54 am.

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.

19/32 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Keenan and Quinn that:

1. Pursuant to section 10A(1)-(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, the media and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that the business is to be considered is classified confidential under the provisions of section 10A(2)(a) as outlined above.
2. The correspondence and reports relevant to the subject business be withheld from access to the media and public as required under section 11(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

**W.228 FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF TWO (2) 11ML
LOW LEVEL RESERVOIRS AT WILLANS HILL, WAGGA WAGGA**

This item is classified as confidential under Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

2 c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,

- 19/33 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Bourke and Conkey OAM that Council:
- i. Accept the tender from Hornick Constructions Pty Ltd for W.228 – Construction of two 11ML Low Level Reservoirs at Willans Hill (Lot 22 DP 835331), Wagga Wagga for \$4,020,000 ex GST.
 - ii. Amend the 2019/2020 draft Capital Works budget to include the additional \$1.3m to complete the Willans Hill Low Level Reservoirs project.

**W.229 FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF 4.5ML
GLENOAK RESERVOIR AT LLOYD**

This item is classified as confidential under Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

2 c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business,

- 19/34 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Keenan and Meyer OAM that Council accept the tender from Hornick Constructions Pty Ltd for W.229 – Construction of 4.5ML Glenoak Reservoir at Lloyd (Lot 53 DP 1181931), for \$1,280,000 ex GST.

OPEN COUNCIL

- 19/35 RESOLVED, on the motion of Clrs. Koschel and Braid OAM 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 11.30 am
