

Business Paper

Council Meeting

18 July 2023



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



Affirmation of Office

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Bland Shire and the Bland Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Meeting Dates	Time	Meeting	Location
---------------	------	---------	----------

July 2023			
18 July	6.30pm	Council Meeting	Chambers
31 July	9am	GM Performance Review Committee	Committee Room

August 2023			
1 August	4pm	Council Workshop	Chambers
4 August	8.30am	NSW Country Mayors Association	Sydney
8 August	10am	Newell Highway Taskforce	Dubbo
15 August	6.30pm	Council Meeting	Chambers
24 August	10am	Goldenfields Water County Council	Temora
25 August	9am	Riverina JO	Wagga
25 August	11am	REROC	Wagga

Blank Page

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. RECORDING OF MEETING STATEMENT

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3. APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on 20 June 2023

6.2 Matters arising from Minutes

6. REPORTS FROM STAFF

Section 1 - Office of the General Manager

6.1 Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions: July 2023 7

Section 2 – Corporate & Community Services

6.2 Finance and Investment Report for June 2023 12

6.3 Endorsement of Revised Revenue Policy 2023/24 18

6.4 Related Party Disclosure Policy (AASB 124) 19

6.5 Request for Donation – Southern Sports Academy 29

6.6 Mornings, Melodies & Memories Update 31

6.7 Endorsement of the Weethalle Community Committee, a Section 355
Committee of Council 34

6.8 Part Day Closure Council Administration Office 36

Section 3 – Reports for Information

6.9 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update 38

6.10 Children Services June Update 42

6.11 Bland Community Care Services Update 47

6.12 Technical Services Report 49

6.13 Development Services Activity Report – June 2023 51

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

8. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Closure of the meeting to discuss confidential business under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act

8.1 Property Purchases

Local Government Act 1993 (Section 10A(2))

The matters and information are the following:

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

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Section 1 - Office of the General Manager

6.1 Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions: July 2023



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Executive Assistant

Introduction

The General Manager is responsible for ensuring that Council's policies, decisions and priorities are implemented in a timely and efficient manner, consistent with the goals and objectives of Council. The General Manager provides the management oversight in relation to all information progressing from appropriate staff to Council for consideration via the Business Paper.

After a Council meeting, each resolution is allocated to the General Manager or responsible officer to action in accordance with the intent of the Council decision. Directors then provide feedback to the General Manager as to the progress of these resolutions on a monthly basis through the Manex meeting.

Financial Implications

Nil

Summary

The Monthly Status Report - Council Meeting Actions includes Council Resolutions up to and including the previous Council Meeting. A note in the status section has been completed by the relevant responsible officer with a reason if available.

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Monthly Status Report - Council Meeting Actions: July 2023.

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
APRIL 2023		
Planning Proposal – Drag Strip Project 14042023 RESOLVED that Council prepare a Planning Proposal for Lots 10 & 11 DP 1141509 for the addition of a recreation facility (outdoor) to Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses in the Bland Local Environmental Plan 2011.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	9/5: underway
Housing Strategy – Planning Proposals 15042023 RESOLVED that Council prepare a Planning Proposal for the Bland Local Environmental Plan 2011 to rezone the following: 1. Lots 579, 746, 725, 750, 748, 415, 747, 749, 157, 458, 752 and 751 in DP 753135 and Lot 1 DP 625986 from RU1 Primary Production to R5 Large Lot Residential and amend the Minimum Lot Size for the erection of a dwelling from 200 hectares to a Minimum Lot Size for subdivision of 2 hectares. 2. Lots 3 and 4 in DP 606975 from RU1 Primary Production to R5 Large Lot Residential and amend the Minimum Lot Size for the erection of a dwelling from 200 hectares to a Minimum Lot Size for subdivision of 2 hectares. 3. Lot A in DP 415479, Lots 1, 2 and 3 in DP 1105282, Lot 1 DP1108611, Lot 761 DP 753135 and Lots 10 and 11 in DP 1250908 from R5 Large Lot Residential to R1 General Residential and amend the Minimum Lot Size for subdivision from 2 hectares to 800 square metres.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	9/5: underway 15/6: COMPLETE
Property Purchase Lot 2 DP1101248 – Calleen Street 19042023 RESOLVED that Council authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations to finalise the sale of Lot 2 DP1101248, 22 Calleen St, West Wyalong for the agreed amount.	Director Technical Services	9/5: negotiations in progress 15/6: Report to June Council meeting. COMPLETE
Property Purchase Lot 2 DP710250 And Lot 1134 DP753135 - Shamrock Street 20042023 RESOLVED that Council authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations to finalise the sale of Lot 2 DP710250 and Lot 1134 DP753135, Shamrock Street, West Wyalong for the agreed amount.	Director Technical Services	9/5: report to be presented to May Council meeting 15/6: Offer accepted, refer to resolution 13052023 - COMPLETE

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
<p>MAY 2023</p> <p>Damaging Increase in Emergency Services Levy Costs 02052023 RESOLVED that Council writes to the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treasurer, the Minister for Emergency Services, the Minister for Local Government and the local State Member: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expressing Council's strong opposition to the NSW Government's last minute decision to impose an enormous Emergency Services Levy (ESL) cost increase on councils for 2023/24 by scrapping the ESL subsidy for councils and at a time after Council has publicly advertised its Operational Plan and annual budget to the community; b. Noting that as a consequence of the unannounced 73% increase in the State Emergency Service budget and an 18% increase in the Fire and Rescue NSW budget, Council's 3.7% rate increase to provide essential community services and infrastructure has been significantly eroded. c. Advising that the Government's decision may lead to a reduction in important local services and/or the cancellation of necessary infrastructure projects; d. Calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. restore the ESL subsidy in 2023/24 ii. urgently introduce legislation to decouple the ESL from the rate peg to enable councils to recover the full cost iii. develop a fairer, more transparent and financially sustainable method of funding critically important emergency services in consultation with local government. iv. that council requests this levy be a separate line item on the rates notice and the charges be passed through to the ratepayers 2. Chair of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) advising that Council's forced emergency services contribution is manifestly disproportionate to the 2023/24 rate cap, which has resulted in additional financial stress. 3. President of LGNSW seeking the Association's ongoing advocacy to bring about a relief in the burden of Councils' emergency services contribution. 		
	General Manager	22/5: letters prepared and dispatched

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
Adoption of the IP&R Documentation and 2023-2024 Revenue Policy 06052023 RESOLVED that Bland Shire Council adopts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revised Operational Plan (including Budget) for the 2023/2024 Financial Year in accordance with s405 of the Local Government Act 1993; The Revenue Policy (including Schedule of Fees and Charges) for the 2023/2024 Financial Year); and The Statement of Rating Structure and their respective short names as contained in the Operational Plan 2023/24 and make the Ordinary Rate and charges, including sewer charges, domestic and trade waste management charges, pursuant to s.494 and s.496 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Waste Management Levy pursuant to s.501 of the Local Government Act 1993 detailed in the tables below; 	Acting Director Corporate & Community Services	30/5: COMPLETE
Endorsement of the Barmedman Community Committee, a Section 355 Committee of Council 08052023 RESOLVED that Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive and note the minutes of the Barmedman Community Committee, held on Wednesday 5 April 2023. Endorse the Barmedman Community Committee members in accordance with the Acting Director Corporate and Community Services report for a probationary period of three (3) months. 	Acting Director Corporate & Community Services	30/5: COMPLETE
Property Purchase Lot 2 DP710250 and 1134 DP753135 – Shamrock Street 13052023 RESOLVED that Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the sale of Lot 2 DP 7510250 and Lot 1134 DP 753135 West Wyalong NSW to Mid West Fabrication for the agreed price of \$70,000 Including GST. Authorise the Mayor and the General Manager to affix Council's seal, sign and execute the Sale Contract for Lot 2 DP 7510250 and Lot 1134 DP 753135 West Wyalong NSW 	Director Technical Services	30/5: Draft contract reviewed, awaiting amendments 12/7: contract signed and exchanged - COMPLETE
Tender – Contract Management and Operation of Holland Park Swimming Pool, West Wyalong and Ungarie Swimming Pool 14052023 RESOLVED that Council award Contract No 8/2023 for the Contract Management and Operation of Holland Park Pool, West Wyalong and Ungarie Pool, to L & R Group to the value of \$569,431.50 (Exc GST) for a three (3) year period with a two (2) year option.	Project Engineer	18/5: Tenderers notified of outcome, contract to be signed 16/5 12/7: contract signed and commenced - COMPLETE

Monthly Status Report – Council Meeting Actions

Resolution	Responsible Person	Progress Update
JUNE 2023		
Local Government Remuneration Tribunal 06062023 RESOLVED that Council fix the annual fee for Councillors at the maximum amount allowable, being \$13,030 per Councillor for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 and fix the annual fee for the Mayor at the maximum amount allowable, being \$28,430 for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.	Director Corporate & Community Services	COMPLETED - Finance department advised of increase to Councillor payments from 1 July, 2023 on 3 July, 2023. Doc 786204
IPART Proposal on Rate Peg Changes 07062023 RESOLVED that Council prepare a submission to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's Draft Report on Rate Pegging supporting the proposed changes as outlined in the document.	Director Corporate & Community Services	Submission not lodged ahead of 4 July deadline. DCCS has registered for Public Hearing on Rate Pegging Review (18 July, 2023)
DA2023/0065 – Business Park Subdivision Application 08062023 RESOLVED that Council approves DA2023/0065 relating to a six (6) lot subdivision on Lots 1233, 1243, 1257 and 1133 in DP753135, Central Road, Wyalong subject to the outlined conditions.	Director Technical Services	
Property Sale 20 Calleen St, West Wyalong 14062023 RESOLVED that Council authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations for the sale of 20 Calleen St West Wyalong.	Director Technical Services	12/7: negotiations commenced, awaiting reply
Property Purchase 15062023 RESOLVED that Council authorise the General Manager to enter into negotiations for the purchase of Neeld St Wyalong and provide a further report to Council.	Director Technical Services	12/7: refer to report to July Council meeting - COMPLETE
Property Sale 22 Calleen St, West Wyalong 16062023 RESOLVED that Council: 1. Approve the sale of Lot 2 DP 1101248, 22 Calleen St, West Wyalong NSW to Matthew Raymond Tait and Brenna Lee Tait for the agreed price of \$75,000 (ex GST). 2. Authorise the Mayor and the General Manager to affix Council's seal, sign and execute the Sale Contract for Lot 2 DP 1101248, 22 Calleen St West Wyalong NSW.	Director Technical Services	12/7: contract signed and exchanged - COMPLETE

Section 2 – Corporate & Community Services

6.2 Finance and Investment Report for June 2023



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.4 Ensure the long-term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author Manager Customer & Financial Services

Introduction

The Finance and Investment Report is provided to Council for information and prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Financial Implications

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2023.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 30TH JUNE 2023

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$2,054,830.38
Business Card	\$30,000.00
	\$2,084,830.38
<i>Invested Funds</i>	
Fixed Deposits	\$72,204,200.07
Deposits at Call	\$8,330,091.22
	\$80,534,291.29
Net Balance	\$82,619,121.67
Percentage of Invested Funds to Net Balance	97.48%

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 30.06.2023
SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING JULY 18, 2023

BALANCE as at 01.06.23	\$2,348,329.82
Add Receipts	
<u>Receipts Over \$150,000</u>	
15/06/23 Redeem Investment WBC	1,000,000.00
27/06/23 23/24 F.A.G.S 2 General	5,920,577.20
27/06/23 23/24 F.A.G.S 2 Local Roads	3,838,079.80
28/06/23 Redeem Macquarie TD	1,000,000.00
<u>Receipts under \$150,000</u>	1,078,304.05
<i>Total Receipts for June 2023</i>	\$12,836,961.05
Less Payments	

Payments over \$150,000

15/06/23 Rocla Pty Limited	-222,970.50
15/06/23 Goldenfields Water	-1,326,158.50
28/06/23 Judo Bank Investment	-1,000,000.00
29/06/23 Judo Bank Investment	-2,000,000.00
29/06/23 BJ & JL Heaslip	-165,264.00
30/06/23 Transfer to Cash at Call	-6,000,000.00

Payments under \$150,000 **-2,416,067.49**

Aged Care	\$ 2,865.64
Bank Fees	\$ 2,902.35
Cash at Call	\$ 6,000,000.00
Cemeteries	\$ 5,904.07
Children's Services	\$ 19,365.76
Community	\$ 33,119.02
Construction	\$ 407,414.00
Corporate	\$ 278,108.09
Development Services	\$ 67,094.73
Direct Debits	\$ 12,903.99
Donations	\$ 319.67
Employee	\$ 771,690.05
Governance	\$ 72,503.94
Investments	\$ 3,000,000.00
Library	\$ 1,104.30
Maintenance	\$ 493,701.18
Plant/Fuel	\$ 301,952.58
Roads	\$ 238,247.19
Sewer	\$ 1,039.69
Utilities	\$ 1,368,692.91
VIC	\$ 46,229.74
Waste	\$ 5,301.59

Total Payments for June 2023 **- \$13,130,460.49**

CASH BALANCE **\$2,054,830.38**
Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank **\$ 350,000.00**

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY AND CERTIFICATION

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period 01 June 2023 to 30 June 2023.

I CERTIFY,

That the accounts included in the accounts summary and totalling as detailed under:-

Payment Type		Voucher No's	Total
Cheques		026317-026327	\$1,331,336.34
Auto-pay	Creditors	E032100 – E032479	\$11,244,516.54
Auto-pay	Payroll	04/06/23 – 25/06/23	\$538,801.27
Bank Charges & Commissions		June 2023	\$2,902.35
Direct Debits	Repayments & Vehicle Lease		12,903.99
			\$13,130,460.49

1. Are fully supported by vouchers and invoices and have been fully registered.
2. The responsible officer concerned has certified that the goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered to order and/or that the services for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered according to order.
3. Official orders have been issued for the supply of such goods and services. The goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been checked with the entries in the goods order book.
4. The prices and computations of every account are correct.
5. The prices for the goods supplied or services rendered under the contract or quotation in accordance therewith and in all cases the prices charged are according to order and as far as I am able to ascertain fair and reasonable.
6. The provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and Regulations in connection therewith have been complied with.

Further I also certify that the Ledger has been reconciled with the bank statements for the preceding monthly period.

.....
Manager Customer and Financial Services
Responsible Accounting Officer

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 18th July 2023, has been checked and is fully supported by vouchers and invoices. These vouchers have been duly certified as to receipt of goods, the rendition of services, to prices and computations, and to costings.

.....
General Manager

CERTIFICATE OF CHAIRMAN OF ORDINARY MEETING

I certify that this accounts summary, covering amounts totalling **\$13,130,460.49** was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 18th July 2023 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 30th June 2023. The funds consist of monies from the Bank Accounts of the Trust Funds, Reserve Accounts, Sewerage Fund and Combined General Account.

DATE INVESTED	INVESTED WITH WHOM	INVESTED AMOUNT	TERM	YIELD	DATE DUE
28/05/2020	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	1460 days	1.50%	27/05/2024
6/08/2020	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	1093 days	1.05%	4/08/2023
30/09/2020	Northern Territory Treasury	2,000,000.00	1902 days	1.20%	15/12/2025
30/10/2020	Northern Territory Treasury	1,000,000.00	1141 days	0.80%	15/12/2023
30/11/2020	MyState Bank	2,000,000.00	730 days	1.20%	30/11/2023
17/09/2021	Judo Bank	2,000,000.00	727 days	0.95%	14/09/2023
1/10/2021	NAB	1,500,000.00	734 days	0.60%	5/10/2023
22/10/2021	MyState Bank	2,000,000.00	733 days	0.80%	25/10/2023
14/12/2021	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	730 days	1.10%	14/12/2023
20/01/2022	AMP	1,000,000.00	729 days	1.35%	19/01/2024
21/02/2022	AMP	2,500,000.00	548 days	1.35%	23/08/2023
11/08/2022	AMP	1,000,000.00	336 days	4.15%	13/07/2023
16/08/2022	Bank of QLD	1,000,000.00	365 days	3.85%	16/08/2023
31/08/2022	Macquarie Bank	1,000,000.00	330 days	4.11%	27/07/2023
8/09/2022	Bendigo Bank	401,400.07	365 days	3.00%	8/09/2023
8/09/2022	Bendigo Bank	401,400.00	365 days	3.00%	8/09/2023
8/09/2022	Bendigo Bank	401,400.00	365 days	3.00%	8/09/2023
16/09/2022	Bank of QLD	1,000,000.00	369 days	4.20%	20/09/2023
21/09/2022	NAB	1,000,000.00	365 days	4.25%	21/09/2023
29/09/2022	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	364 days	4.45%	28/09/2023
5/10/2022	NAB	2,000,000.00	371 days	4.05%	11/10/2023
18/10/2022	Police Bank	2,000,000.00	365 days	4.45%	18/10/2023
19/10/2022	Judo Bank	2,000,000.00	365 days	4.30%	19/10/2023
10/11/2022	AMP	1,000,000.00	364 days	4.75%	9/11/2022
17/11/2022	Australian Unity	2,000,000.00	364 days	4.40%	16/11/2023
30/11/2022	Auswide Bank	2,000,000.00	358 days	4.55%	23/11/2023
8/12/2022	Commonwealth Bank	2,000,000.00	364 days	4.38%	7/12/2023
25/01/2023	Macquarie Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	4.35%	25/01/2023
25/01/2023	Auswide Bank	1,000,000.00	176 days	4.50%	20/07/2023
31/01/2023	Great Southern Bank	2,500,000.00	365 days	4.65%	31/01/2024
8/02/2023	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	4.75%	8/02/2024
15/02/2023	NAB	1,000,000.00	365 days	4.90%	15/02/2024
16/02/2023	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	328 days	4.85%	10/01/2024
28/02/2023	Macquarie Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	4.84%	28/02/2024
1/03/2023	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	371 days	5.00%	1/03/2024
6/03/2023	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	380 days	5.00%	20/03/2024
8/03/2023	Bank of QLD	1,000,000.00	371 days	4.80%	13/03/2024
29/03/2023	AMP	1,500,000.00	365 days	4.90%	28/03/2024
4/04/2023	Auswide Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	4.90%	3/04/2024
18/04/2023	AMP	1,000,000.00	358 days	4.95%	10/04/2024
20/04/2023	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	363 days	4.60%	17/04/2024
20/04/2023	Hume Bank	1,000,000.00	370 days	4.80%	24/04/2024
11/05/2023	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	223 days	5.00%	20/12/2023
11/05/2023	AMP	2,000,000.00	364 days	5.00%	9/05/2024
23/05/2023	Great Southern Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	5.11%	22/05/2024
30/05/2023	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	336 Days	4.90%	30/04/2024
30/05/2023	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	5.10%	29/05/2024
8/06/2023	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	364 Days	5.45%	6/06/2024
15/06/2023	Auswide Bank	1,000,000.00	364 Days	5.40%	13/06/2024
22/06/2023	Defence Bank	2,000,000.00	364 Days	5.55%	20/06/2024
28/06/2023	Judo Bank	1,000,000.00	364 days	5.75%	26/06/2024
29/06/2023	Judo Bank	2,000,000.00	369 days	5.75%	2/07/2024
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,959.66	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	8,279,131.56	Cash at Call		
TOTAL:		\$80,534,291.29			

I certify that the above investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Regulation and Council's Investment Policies. I certify that the above investment has been reconciled with Council's General Ledger Accounts.

GENERAL MANAGER

RATES REPORT

Below is a summary of outstanding rates

Total rates income levied (2022/23)	\$ 11,185,739.39
Rates received as at 30/06/2023	\$ 10,842,233.65
% of rates received to date	96.93%

The total rates income includes rates in arrears and accumulated interest.

Summary

The information provided within this Finance and Investment Report has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 as well as Council's financial management policies and procedures. Further, the financial position of Council is satisfactory and the external investments are held in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government act 1993.

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and note the information contained within the Finance and Investment Report for the month of June 2023
 2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 June to 30 June 2023, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$13,130,460.49
-

6.3 Endorsement of Revised Revenue Policy 2023/24



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author: Manager Customer and Financial Services

Introduction

At the Council meeting held on the 16 May 2023, Councillors resolved to adopt the 2023/24 Revenue Policy including the fees and charges. A review of the final document has identified several fees and charges that require amendment.

Financial Implications

There are no major financial implications for Council as there has been no change made to the adopted Operational Plan Budget nor is there a requirement to undertake a community engagement process or advertise the document.

Summary

The Revenue Policy was adopted at the May 2023 Council meeting. Since the adoption of the Revenue Policy Council has been notified of a change in the cost of the legislated Section 603 charge and an internal review has identified several misprints as well as requirement to amend fees for hiring of premises. The proposed amendments are summarised as follows;

ACTIVITY	ADOPTED CHARGE	REVISED CHARGE	COMMENT
Cemeteries Barmedman, Ungarie and Weethalle Niche Wall Interment of ashes including tablet	\$185.00	\$485.00	Page 5 - this was a typo
Certificates Section 603	\$90.00	\$95.00	Page 5 - legislative charge
Construction Certificate Fees Industrial/Commercial - Estimated value up to \$15,000	\$420,450.00	\$450.00	Page 7 - this was a typo
Bland Community Care Room Hire	\$55.00	N/A	To be removed - no available rooms
Wyalong Hall Hire of Hall - Full Day Hire of Hall - Half Day Hire of Hall - Charitable Organisations	- - -	\$165.00 plus \$500 bond \$80.00 plus \$100 bond Fee to be negotiated by Committee	<i>This is a new inclusion and comes from the decision of the Wyalong School of Arts & Hall Section 355 Committee.</i>

Recommendation

That Council endorses the amended fees and charges as part of the Revenue Policy 2023/24.

6.4 Related Party Disclosure Policy (AASB 124)



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author: Manager Customer and Financial Services

Introduction

From 1 July 2016, the making of related party disclosures applied to government entities including local government. Council must disclose in its annual financial statements related party relationships, transactions and outstanding balances, including commitments. These are subject to audit under Accounting Standard AASB 124 – Related Party Disclosures.

On 21 February 2017, Council adopted the Related Party Disclosures Policy, which has now lapsed. The revised policy has some important inclusions such as information privacy which states “the information is classified as confidential and is not available for inspection by or disclosure to the public, including through a *Government Information (Public Access) Act (GIPAA)* application”.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report

Summary

The revised policy provides more transparency to the community through the inclusions of registers available for audit in addition to greater protection for Key Management Personnel with the assurance of confidentiality with the reporting.

Recommendation:

That Bland Shire Council endorses the revised Related Party Disclosure Policy as per Accounting Standard AASB 124 – Related Party Disclosures.

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft Related Party Disclosure Policy

POLICY STATEMENT

RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES POLICY

AUTHORISATION

POLICY TYPE: <i>(Council or Operational)</i>	Council
POLICY LOCATION: <i>(eg. Corporate, Engineering, etc.)</i>	Corporate Services
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: <i>(by position title)</i>	Responsible Accounting Officer
AUTHORISED BY: <i>(GM or Director Title)</i>	Director Corporate & Community Services
DATE ADOPTED:	
ADOPTED BY: <i>(Manex or Council)</i>	
MINUTE NO: <i>(If required)</i>	
REVIEW DUE DATE: <i>(Four years unless statutorily required sooner)</i>	
REVISION NUMBER:	
RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS <i>Include names of former policies that this policy will replace if applicable</i>	AMENDED BY <i>(Where required)</i>

REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This Policy will be reviewed within Four (4) years from the date of adoption or as required in the event of legislative changes. The Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendment that are to the advantage that Council and in the spirit of this Policy. Any amendment to the Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution.

1. Purpose:

The Related Party Disclosure Policy will assist Council in complying with disclosure requirements concerning Key management Personnel (KMP), their close family members and entities controlled or jointly controlled by any of them stipulated under the Australian Accounts Standard AASB124 Related Party Disclosures.

2. Scope:

This policy is to be applied in:

1. Identifying related party relationships, related party transactions and ordinary citizen transaction concerning key management personnel, their close family members and entities controlled or jointly controlled by any of them; and
2. Identifying information about the related party transaction for disclosure; and
3. Establishing systems to capture and record the related party transactions and information about those transactions; and
4. Identifying the circumstances in which disclosures of the items in paragraphs 1 and 2 are required; and
5. Determining the disclosures to be made about those items in the General Purpose Financial Statements for the purpose of complying with AASB 124.

3. Outcomes:

The objective of the policy is to ensure that the existence of certain related party relationships, related party transactions and information about the transactions, necessary for users to understand the potential effects on the financial statements are properly identified, recorded in Council's systems and disclosed in Council's General Purpose Financial Statements in compliance with *the Local Government Act 1993*, AASB 124, the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* and the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*.

4. Statement of Procedures:

1 AASB 124 DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

1.1 Disclosures

To comply with AASB 124, for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2016, Council will disclose in its General Purpose Financial Statements the information specified in 1.2 for related party transactions with, amongst others, the following persons during the periods covered by the Financial Statements

- a) Council subsidiaries;
- b) Entities who are associates of Council or of a Council subsidiary;
- c) Joint ventures in which Council or a Council subsidiary is a joint venture;
- d) Council's Key Management Personnel (KMP);
- e) Other related parties, comprising:
 - i. A close family member of a KMP of Council;
 - ii. Entities controlled or jointly controlled by a KMP of Council;
 - iii. Entities controlled or jointly controlled by a close family member of a KMP of Council;
 - iv. Other entities as specified in AASB 124, paragraph 9 (b)(iii), (iv), (v) and (viii).

1.2 Disclosed Information

For each category of related party transactions specified in Section 1.1, Council will

disclose the following information in Council's General Purpose Financial Statements:

- a) the nature of the related party relations;
- b) The amount of the transactions;
- c) The amount of outstanding balances, including commitments; and
 - i. Their terms and conditions, including whether they are secured, and the nature of the consideration to be provided in settlement; and
 - ii. Details of any guarantees given or received
- d) provisions for doubtful debts related to the amount of outstanding balances; and
- e) the expense recognized during the period in respect of bad or doubtful debts due from related parties.

1.3 Disclosed in Aggregate or Separate

For each related party category specified in Section 1.1, Council will disclose information specified in Section 1.2 for related party transactions of a similar nature in aggregate except when separate disclosure is necessary for an understanding of the effects of related party transaction on the financial statements of council, having regard to the following criteria:

- a) the nature of the related party relationship;
- b) the significance of the transaction (individually or collectively) in terms of size or value (including where the materiality arises due to the fact that no consideration for the transaction is given or received by Council);
- c) whether the transaction is carried out on non-arm's length terms;
- d) whether the nature of the transaction is outside normal day-to-day business operations;
- e) based on the factors and thresholds under the direction of the Responsible Accounting Officer in consultation with Council's Audit Committee and External Auditor.

2 IDENTIFYING RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSATIONS

2.1 Identification

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for identifying Council subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures (incorporated and unincorporated)

2.2 Control or Joint Control

To determine whether Council has control or joint control of an entity, the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for applying Australian Account Standards AASB 10 Consolidated Financial Statements and AASB 11 Joint Arrangements

2.3 Associate of Joint Venture

To determine whether an entity is an associate or, or in a joint venture with, Council or a Council subsidiary the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for applying AASB 128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures.

2.4 Electronic Investigation

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for investigating through Council's business system whether any identified Council subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures have an existing related party transaction with Council.

2.5 Information Extraction

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for identifying and extracting information in Section 1.2 against each existing related party transaction in Council's business systems for the purpose of recording the related party transactions and associated information in a register of related party transactions.

2.6 Manual Investigation and Recording of Information

For related party transactions that are not captured by Council's business systems, the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for manually reviewing the transactional documentation and record the information specified in Section 1.2 for the subject transaction in the register of related party transactions.

3 IDENTIFYING RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS WITH KMP AND THEIR CLOSE FAMILY MEMBERS

3.1 Related Party Disclosures

Key Management Personnel (KMP) must provide a related party disclosure in the form set out in Attachment A, notifying any existing related party transactions between Council and either themselves, their close family members or entities controlled or jointly controlled by them or any of their close family members, subject to Section 3.6, to the General Management by no later than the following periods during a financial year (**specified notification period**):

- a) 30 days after a KMP commences their term or employment with Council;
- b) 30 November each year;
- c) 30 June each year.

3.2 Related Party Disclosure Form

At least 30 days before a specified notification period, the General Manager will provide Key Management Personnel (KMP) with a Related Party Disclosure Form (Attachment A) and a Privacy Collection Notice (Attachment B).

3.3 Suspected Related Party Transaction

If a Key Management Personnel (KMP) suspects that a transaction may constitute a related party transaction, the KMP should provide a Related Party Disclosure to the General Management for consideration and determination.

3.4 Other Notifications

The notification requirements in Section 3 are in addition to the notifications a Key Management Personnel (KMP) must make to comply with:

- a) for Councillors, the *Code of Conduct*; and
- b) for the General Manager and other senior executive officers who are KMP, the *Code of Conduct*; and
- c) the disclosure of interest in a written return pursuant to Section 450A of the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

3.5 Exclusions

The notification requirements in Section 3 do not apply to:

- a) related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions under Section 4; and
- b) the Mayor and Councillor expenses incurred and facilities provided during a financial year under Council's *Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors Policy*, the particulars of which are contained in Council's Annual Report pursuant to the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, clause 217*.

3.6 Other Sources of Information

To ensure all related party transactions are captured and recorded, the Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for reviewing, if required, other sources of information held by Council including, but not limited to:

- a) a Disclosure of Interests Return (under Section 449 of the *Local Government Act 1993*) of a Key Management Personnel (KMP) and of persons related to the KMP
- b) minutes of Council and committee meetings;
- c) Council's Contracts Register

4 ORDINARY CITIZEN TRANSACTIONS

4.1 Non-material in Nature

A Key Management Personnel (KMP) is not required to notify in a related party disclosure and Council will not disclose in its Financial Statements, related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions assessed to be not material in nature.

4.2 Material in Nature

A Key Management Personnel (KMP) is required to notify in a related party disclosure and Council will disclose in its Financial Statements in accordance with Section 1, related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions assessed to be material in nature

4.3 Materiality Assessment

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for reviewing and assessing the materiality of related party transactions that are ordinary citizen transactions to determine whether the disclosure of such transactions are necessary for an understanding of the effects of the related party transactions on the Financial Statements having regard to the criteria set in Section 1.3.

As a general rule, Council will utilise \$10,000 as the threshold for materiality.

4.4 Information Extraction

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for identifying information specified in Section 1.2 against each notified related party transaction that is an ordinary citizen transaction assessed as being material in nature in Council's business systems for the purpose of recording the related party transactions and associated information in a register of related party transactions.

5 REGISTER OF RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

5.1 Maintain a Register

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for maintaining a current register of related party transactions that captures and records the information specified in Section 1.2 for each existing or potential related party transaction during a financial year.

5.2 Contents of Register

The contents of the register of related party transactions must details for each related party transaction:

- a) the description of the related party transaction;
- b) the name of the related party;
- c) the nature of the related party's relationship with Council;
- d) whether the notified related party transaction is existing or potential;
- e) a description of the transactional documents the subject of the related party transaction
- f) the information specified in Section 1.2

The Responsible Accounting Officer is responsible for ensuring that the information specified in Section 1.2 is disclosed in Council's Financial Statement to the extent, and in the manner, stipulated by AASB 124, subject to Section 1.3.

6 INFORMATION PRIVACY

6.1 Confidential

The following information is classified as confidential and is not available for inspection by or disclosure to the public, including through a *Government Information (Public Access) Act (GIPAA)* application:

- a) information (including personal information) provide by a Key Management Personnel (KMP) in a related party disclosure; and
- b) personal information contained in a register of related party transactions

6.2 When Consent is Required

Except as specified in this Policy, Council and other permitted recipients will not use or disclose personal information provided in a related party disclosure by a Key Management Personnel (KMP) or contained in a register of related party transactions for any other purpose or to any other person except with the prior written consent of the subject KMP.

6.3 Permitted Recipients

The following persons are permitted to access, use and disclose the information (including personal information) provided in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party

transactions for the purposes specified in Section 6.4:

- a) the General Manager,
- b) the Responsible Accounting Officer,
- c) an Auditor of Council (including an Auditor from or contracted by the NSW Auditor General's Office)
- d) Other Officers as delegated by the General Manager

6.4 Permitted Purposes

A persons specified in Section 6.3 may access, use and disclose information (including personal information) in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party transactions for the following purposes:

- a) to access and verify a notified related party transaction;
- b) to reconcile identified related party transactions against those notified in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party transactions;
- c) to comply with the disclosure requirements of AASB 124;
- d) to verify compliance with the disclosure requirements of AASB 124.

6.5 Personal Access

An individual may access their personal information provided by a Key Management Personnel in a related party disclosure or contained in a register of related party transactions in accordance with Council's *Privacy Management Plan*.

7. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT (GIPA) STATUS

7.1 No Public Inspection

The following documents are not open to or available for inspection by the public:

- a) related party disclosures provided by a Key Management Personnel (KMP); and
- b) a register of related party transactions.

7.2 Not GIPA - accessible

A GIPA application seeking access to:

- a) a document or information (including personal information) provided by a Key Management Personnel (KMP) in a related party disclosure; or
- b) personal information contained in a register of related party transactions;

will be refused on the grounds the document or information comprises information for which there is an overriding public interest against disclosure pursuant to Section 14 of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act*.

7.3 Transactional Documentation

A GIPA Application seeking access to and release of transactional information and documentation the subject of a related party transaction with Council will be considered, assessed and decided in accordance with Council's usual procedures regarding applications made under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act*.

5. Definitions:

Each of the following expressions in bold bears the meaning shown opposite

Expression	Meaning
Arm's length transaction	Terms between parties that are reasonable in the circumstances of the transaction that would result from: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> neither party bearing the other any special duty of obligation, and the parties being unrelated and uninfluenced by the other, and each party having acted in it's own interest
Associate	In relation to an entity (the first entity), an entity over which the first entity has significant influence
Close family members or close members of the family	In relation to a KMP, family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by that KMP in their dealings with Council will include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> that person's children and spouse or domestic partners children of that person's spouse or domestic partner dependants of that person or that person's spouse or domestic partner. <p>For the purposes of ASSB 124, close family members could include extended members of a family (such as, without limitation, parents, siblings, grandparents, uncles/aunts or cousins) <i>if</i> they could be expected to influence, or be influenced by, the KMP in their dealings with Council</p>
Control	Control of an entity is present when there is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> power over the entity; and exposure or rights to variable returns from involvement with the entity; and the ability to use power over the entity to affect the amount of returns received <p>as determined in accordance with AASB 10 <i>Consolidated Financial Statements, Paragraph 5 to 18, Appendices A (Defined Terms) and B (Application Guide)</i></p>
Joint Control	The contractually agreed sharing of control of an arrangement, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.
Joint Venture	An arrangement of which two or more parties have joint control and have right to the net assets of the arrangement.
Joint Venture	A party to a joint venture that has joint control of that joint venture.
Key Management Personnel (KMP)	Person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Council. Specifically, KMP of Council are the: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Councillors General Manager Directors

Ordinary Citizen Transactions	Transactions that an ordinary citizen would undertake with Council, which is undertaken on arm's length terms and in the ordinary course of carrying out Council's functions and activities. Examples of ordinary citizen transactions assessed to be not material in nature are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Paying rates and charges b) Using Council's public facilities after paying the corresponding fees
Related Party	A person or entity that is related to Council pursuant to the definition contained in AASB 124, paragraph 9. Examples of related parties of Council are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Council subsidiaries; b) Key Management Personnel (KMP) c) Close family members of KMP; d) Entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or their close family members.
Related Party Transaction	A transfer of resources, services or obligations between the Council and a related party, regardless of whether a price is charged. Examples of related party transactions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Purchases or sales of goods; b) Purchases or sales of property and other assets, c) Rendering or receiving of services d) Rendering or receiving of goods e) Leases f) Transfers under licence agreements g) Transfers under finance agreements (example loans) h) Provision of guarantees (given or received) i) Commitments to do something if a particular event occurs or does not occur in the future j) Settlement of liabilities on behalf of Council or by Council on behalf of that related party
Related Party Disclosure	A document entitled <i>Related Party Disclosure by Key Management Personnel</i> in the form set out in Attachment A
Significant Influence	The power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of another entity but is not control or joint control of those policies, as determined in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard <i>AASB 128 Investments in associates and Joint Ventures, Paragraph 3, 5 & 6.</i>

6. Legislation and Supporting Documents:

Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2021
 Accounting Standard AASB 124 July 2015 Related Party Disclosures
 Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIPA)
 Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA)
 Code of Conduct
 Privacy Management Plan
 Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors Policy

7. Attachments:

Attachment A: Related Party Disclosure by Key Management Personnel
 Attachment B: Privacy Collection Notice

6.5 Request for Donation – Southern Sports Academy



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP 3.1.5 Administer Council's Strengthening Communities Grant

Author: Manager Customer & Financial Services

Introduction

The Southern Sports Academy (SSA) is seeking a donation in support of elite local young athletes who attend the academy's programs.

SSA focuses on youth development and encompasses both sporting and life skills.

Historically Council has donated \$200 per athlete residing in the Bland Shire.

YEAR	NUMBER OF ATHLETES	AMOUNT
2021	10	\$2,000
2020	5	\$1,000
2019	4	\$800
2018	3	\$600
2017	1	\$200

In 2023, 11 talented athletes from the Bland Shire LGA were selected for the academy. The names of those who were chosen to be part of the academy and their sporting area were:

Given	Surname	Town	Sport	LGA
Billy	Matthews	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Cleo	Hopper	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Tori	Martin	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Lucas	Matthews	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Charlie	Sutton	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Olivia	Hopper	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Liam	Duncan	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Phoenix	Grintell	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Remy	Martin	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Levi	Milsom	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland
Jack	Sutton	West Wyalong 2671	Basketball	Bland

Financial Implications

Previously the donation to SSA was taken from the Strengthening Communities Budget, however it is not eligible under those program guidelines. Council have a budget allocation in the 23/24 budget for a \$1,000 donation to the Western Region Academy of Sports, but no budget allocation for SSA.

There is \$19,000 remaining from the 22/23 Strengthening Communities Budget of which \$2,200 could be carried forward and used for the SSA donation.

Summary

Providing local talented athletes access to advanced programs such as those offered by the Southern Sports Academy is important for the growth and development of our local youth.

Recommendation:

That Council approve a donation of \$200 per athlete to the Southern Sports Academy in support of the 11 athletes selected for 2023 in Bland Shire LGA totalling \$2,200 from the Strengthening Communities Budget.

6.6 Mornings, Melodies & Memories Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP1- Ensure health and support services address the needs of the community

Author: Community Care Coordinator

Mornings, Melodies and Memories

Sunday 27 November saw the official launch of a new Council project specifically for seniors living within Bland Shire. Mornings, Melodies and Memories is a series of gatherings. It has been funded by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice and is one of only four large projects to receive money as part of the Reducing Social Isolation for Seniors Round Three.

As part of the Mornings, Melodies and Memories program, gatherings have been held across the Bland Shire area specifically for older residents living within village and rural communities. These events will consist of a series of morning teas at which residents and volunteers can come together to share local stories to build social connections which we hope will last beyond the funded project period. It will also provide for local and regional performers to present songs across the ages at various gatherings throughout the year.

The only difficulty experienced is advertisement to target the Senior Communities. Events have been advertised on Council's Social Media Accounts, in The Advocate and by distribution of flyers from key community members in each village. It is anticipated that now the sessions have commenced, 'word of mouth' advertisement will spread and increased attendance numbers predicted.

The West Wyalong Radio Station has gathered information regarding the Mornings, Melodies and Memories Project and will continue to promote with weekly location updates. The Director Corporate and Community Services participated in an interview with the ABC Riverina Radio station.

Local songstress, Claudia Raine, (pictured right), provided live entertainment on Monday 15 May 2023, in Weethalle.

Staff are working on booking live entertainment for a minimum of one visit per village throughout the program. Performer, Craig Giles, has been booked to provide a larger scale event in West Wyalong on Monday 31 July 2023, where all attendees from across the Shire will be invited to attend and John Martin will be providing entertainment at the final session to be held on Saturday 2 December 2023 at the West Wyalong S&C Club.



Wyalong Public School provided catering and entertainment for the session held on Monday 27 May at Toppy Hall along with the West Wyalong Town Choir. Positive feedback received from participants, staff and volunteers and Wyalong Public School Students, Staff and P&C Committee should be congratulated for their efforts.



Ben O'Kane entertained the attendees from Mirrool on Monday 3 July 2023, performing a range of music including a variety of original numbers.

All attendees have participated in a 'Shire wide' art project, where hand prints are being completed in shades of green and will be collated towards the end of the program to complete a tree artwork (hand prints will form the leaves). This will show that no matter where we are, we are all connected in some way.

Pictured left: Hand prints provided by participants to form the Shire Wide Art Project.



Pictured Above: participants at Toppo Hall, Monday 29 May 2023

The table below indicates locations visited and number of attendees present at each session:

DATE	LOCATION	ATTENDANCE
13 March	Central Hotel – Ungarie	6
20 March	Weethalle Country Club – Weethalle	6
27 March	Arts, Crafts, Coffee & Cake – Barmedman	6
3 April	Tallimba	5
17 April	Weethalle Country Club – Weethalle	5
24 April	Arts, Crafts, Coffee & Cake – Barmedman	9
1 May	The Royal Hotel – Mirrool	11
8 May	CWA Rooms – Ungarie	6
15 May	Weethalle Country Club – Weethalle	5
22 May	Arts, Crafts, Coffee & Cake – Barmedman	7
29 May	Toppo Hall – Wyalong	40
5 June	Tallimba Hall – Tallimba	7
19 June	Weethalle Country Club – Weethalle	9
26 June	Arts, Crafts, Coffee & Cake – Barmedman	12
3 July	The Royal Hotel - Mirrool	5
10 July	War Memorial Hall – Ungarie	11

The following dates and locations have also been scheduled for July/August 2023.

DATE	LOCATION
17 July	Weethalle Country Club - Weethalle
24 July	Arts, Crafts, Coffee & Cake – Barmedman
31 July	West Wyalong S & C Club (Craig Giles)
7 August	Tallimba Hall – Tallimba
14 August	CWA Rooms – Ungarie
21 August	Weethalle Country Club – Weethalle
28 August	Arts, Crafts, Coffee & Cake - Barmedman

Key activities have commenced at each session, with positive feedback received from Attendees, Volunteers, Hosts and Staff.



Discussions held throughout the sessions held have included but not limited to: where you were born, schooling/education, how you came to be a resident within the Bland Shire (if not born here), discussions around heating and cooling and most recently discussions around Covid-19.

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the information contained within the Mornings, Melodies and Memories update.

6.7 Endorsement of the Weethalle Community Committee, a Section 355 Committee of Council



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.4 The long term financial sustainability of council is supported through effective and prudent financial management

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

At the Council meeting held in May 2021, Councillors resolved to adopt the revised Section 355 Committee Manual.

Section 4 of the manual states “The Committee will comprise not less than four (4) who have been duly endorsed by Council.”

The Weethalle Community Committee held an extraordinary meeting on 28 June 2023 where a new committee was nominated. Notes from the meeting are attached.

Financial Implications

As Section 355 Committees are functions of Council, all assets including cash are considered Council’s assets. Committee’s must provide regular financial reporting to Council.

Council has approved an allocation of \$5,000 annually for each Community Committee which has signed an MoU and have complied with reporting requirements.

Summary

The Weethalle Community Committee, at its meeting held on 28 June 2023 elected the following members into their committee;

President/ Chair Person: Graham Reid

Treasurer: Dianne Studholme

Secretary: Linda Slade

Safety Officer: Mark Booker

Others in attendance at the meeting represented various groups operating within the Weethalle township and indicated support for the committee would be provided as and when was needed.

To assist this new executive committee and support them whilst they navigate the requirements of a Section 355 Committee, it is recommended that Council endorse the committee members for a three month probationary period. During this time Council staff will guide and assist the committee to ensure compliance.

In accordance with Councils s355 Committee Manual, Council is able to dissolve any such committee at any time, and may wish to appoint one of its members to a committee.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- Receive and note the minutes of the Weethalle Community Committee, held on Wednesday 28 June 2023.
 - Endorse the Weethalle Community Committee members in accordance with the Director Corporate and Community Services report for a probationary period of three (3) months.
-

Weethalle Community Committee - Section 355 Committee Meeting

Held at: Weethalle Country Club, 2 Showground Road Weethalle NSW.

Date: 28th June 2023

In attendance:

Alison Balind (Bland Shire Council), Vicky Jolly (Outgoing Secretary), Graham Reid (Show Society), Mark Booker (Rec Ground), Michelle Jolly (Muster Committee), Linda Slade, Mark Starr, Haidee Studholme (Weethalle Country Club), Gwen Pope, Dianne Studholme (Hall Committee – Centenary Committee), Betty Fenning (Golf, Show Society). Meeting notes – Rochelle Ellem.

Apologies:

Grant Baker (General Manager Bland Shire), Councillor Bruce Baker, Councillor Jill Funnell.

Meeting Opened: 6.15pm

AB: Discussed Section 355 Committee guidelines and what is required from the 355 committee. All in attendance agreed that they need a committee and would form a committee.

BF: Previous President had shown previous committee the 355 guidelines, not liked and no further discussions or actions were taken.

LS: Asked if Council was going to employ a person to look after the grounds and council facilities in Weethalle. Advertisement has been seen for a handy person/ caretaker.

AB: Management team at council has had previous discussions around the management of council facilities and grounds at Weethalle. However no decision has been made to employ a person specifically for Weethalle.

BF: Who is meant to look after the cemetery?

AB: Refer to old terms of reference. MOU: new 355 Committee can go through and cross out what does not apply for Weethalle. Previous Secretary/Treasurer has resigned from the committee while Previous President had resigned earlier in the year. Called for Nominations with the following Executive elected:

President/ Chair Person: Graham Reid – (Nominated Haidee Studholme. Seconded: Betty Fenning)

Treasurer: Dianne Studholme – (Nominated: Michelle Jolly. Seconded: Gwen Pope)

Secretary: Linda Slade – (Nominated: Mark Booker. Seconded: Graham Reid)

AB: Section 355 Committee to have 2 signatures (not from same family) on bank account plus a Council representative. Information on closing existing Tidy Towns account and establishing an account for the Weethalle Community Committee to be emailed through to the relevant people.

DS: Is Section 355 a point of contact for council on matters involving Weethalle.

AB: Yes. Explained approval process for the committee. Once approved the committee executive would be advised. In the interim, any requests for work to be undertaken to be emailed to council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au and they would be sent to the relevant staff for action.

MS: Enquired about being a paid person, to look after Weethalle.

AB: Further investigate this and for time being he can become a volunteer on 355 Committee.

LS: Toilets in main street are always a constant concern and always dirty. Council does their best to clean them but more needs to be done.

Meeting Closed 6.58pm

6.8 Part Day Closure Council Administration Office



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP12.2 - Promote sustainable, productive, highly skilled and committed workforce which supports current and future service delivery needs.

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

As part of NSW Local Government Week (31 July to 6 August), a number of events are being planned to not only promote the work that councils, such as Bland Shire, undertake within the communities but to celebrate and acknowledge those who carry out the work – the staff and volunteers.

Financial Implications

Services across a number of facilities will continue to be provided on the afternoon of 3 August as they a direct provision services. These include Childrens Services and Community Care.

Summary

The Bland Shire schedule for Local Government Week includes, among other things, a special Mornings, Melodies and Memories session at the S&C Club, a Careers at Council presentation, staff meeting and barbecue as well as a morning tea for Council's volunteers.

It is proposed that a whole of staff meeting and barbecue be held on the afternoon of Thursday, 3 August. For this meeting to include as many staff as possible, Council will be required to close some of its facilities, specifically the Council Administration Offices, including the Visitors Centre and Library. Approval of this closure is now being sought from the Council.

The above information is for the information and authorisation of councillors.

Recommendation:

That Council:

- a) Authorise the closure of council offices at 12.30pm on Thursday 3 August, 2023 and reopen at 8.30am on Friday, 4 August 2023.
 - b) Note the planned closure of Council services and operations, with the exception of skeleton staff, from 12.30pm on Thursday, 3 August 2023 for the purposes of an organisation-wide staff meeting.
 - c) Advertise the intended temporary change to Council services to the community.
-

Section 3 – Reports for Information

Recommendation:

That the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- 6.9 - Bland Shire Library Monthly Update
 - 6.10 - Children Services June Update
 - 6.11 - Bland Community Care Services Update
 - 6.12 - Technical Services Report
 - 6.13 - Development Services Activity Report – June 2023
-

6.9 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP3.4 Foster a community learning culture optimising our physical and virtual spaces

Author: Library Services Coordinator

Successful National Backyard Cricket Grant Submission

Bland Shire Library has been granted \$1,500 in support of its Book (with a twist) Photo Competition, which is being held to highlight Library and Information Week, 31 July – 6 August 2023.

Entry to the competition is free and open to all Bland Shire residents. There are three categories – primary students, secondary students and adults 18+. The closing date for entries is 5pm Friday 21 July 2023 – with entries submitted online or alternatively a hard copy handed in at the library.

Entries will be judged on originality and winners notified by phone or email. An exhibition of competition entries will be on display in the library during Library and Information Week.

The funding is to be utilised for the provision of prizes in the form of Why Leave Town gift cards, books, and other prizes.

National Backyard Cricket is a fundraising program established by the LBW Trust (Learning for a Better World). Money raised helps fund education initiatives offered in country libraries across Australia and overseas. The library grant-making process managed by FOLA (Friends of Libraries Australia) is a national non-profit organisation that represents the twelve million Australians who are members of their local public libraries.

Mental Health Grant Application - Submitted

Bland Shire Library has submitted an application for funding to host an event in October to highlight Mental Health Month NSW, part of a national mental health promotion campaign.

The library plans to host a series of health and well-being days featuring local guest speakers, information sessions and demonstrations. Funding up to \$1000 is available from WayAhead, Mental Health Association NSW. This year's theme is "We all have a role to play".

If successful, the funding will be utilised for promotion, including free giveaway packs and other costs associated with staging the event.

Aged Care Reform Information Hub - Submission

Bland Shire Library has made a submission to the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) seeking proposals from public library members of ALIA to pilot a three-month program for the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care, also supported by the Australian Public Library Alliance.

An estimated 30 public libraries will be selected to operate an Aged Care Reform Information hub for the three-month pilot period, which aims to increase awareness of aged care reforms in the community. Successful libraries will be notified by ALIA 31st July 2023 and receive a \$6,000 payment for providing the service.

Successful July School Holiday Program

The library's July school holiday program proved popular with all sessions booked out and more than 100 children participating in the activities which included

Two cake decorating sessions with Dagmar McIntyre (*the children had the option to decorate a unicorn or dragon*)

Lego (*the children enjoyed a variety of mini challenges and free build time*)

Sand Artworks (*the children created artworks using coloured sand or chalk powder, and other items*)

The library also provided a take-home craft kit (*a sleeping mask to decorate*).



Pictures from Cake Decorating with Dagmar McIntyre

NAIDOC Week 2 – 9 July

To celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Bland Shire Library held an exhibition of its indigenous collection, which it has been fostering over the past twelve months. The library gave away thirty foam Australian animal mosaic kits (in indigenous colours) to patrons who borrowed or reserved a children's storybook or junior information book from the indigenous collection.

In light of NAIDOC Week falling within the school holidays, the library provided additional activities including,

Decorating a wooden boomerang (held Thursday 6 July and Friday 7 July, 10.30am – 11.30am) for children aged 5+.

Free indigenous colouring-in sheets

An exhibition of indigenous artefacts – a private collection owned by local resident Stan Dodgson – is currently on display in the library until the end of July.

Tech Savvy Seniors - Workshops

Bland Shire Library is currently running a series of two-hour technology workshops for seniors.

The sessions, which cover a wide range of topics including internet, email and smartphones, have been well attended (with between 10 and 15 people attending each session).

Understandably, scams and cyber security is a real concern for seniors. In light of this, Michael Palmer from NBN Co has been engaged to give a Scams and Cyber Safety talk at Bland Shire Library on Tuesday 25 July, 10.30am.



Talking Scams and Cyber Safety with Kurrajong – 20 July

Bland Shire Library will host a light luncheon followed by a Scams and Cyber Safety workshop for Kurrajong clients on Thursday 20 July 2023, 12.30pm.

Little Emergencies – 21 July

The library will host a baby first aid program on Friday 21 June 2023, 10.30am. Nurse Educator, Shannon Evans (MLHD), will conduct the program under the new name Little Emergencies. The program will include basic first aid and emergency CPR for babies and toddlers. Places are limited so booking is essential. Pending demand, Ms Evans has agreed to conduct a second session.

Children's Book Week 19 – 25 August

Each year since 1945, the CBCA (Children's Book Council of Australia) has celebrated Children's Book Week to highlight Australian children's literature and the importance of reading. A high point of Children's Book Week is the CBCA Book of the Year Awards, which acknowledges our Australian children's authors and illustrators and recognises their work. The 2023 CBCA Book Week theme is "Read, Grow, Inspire"!

Bland Shire Library will celebrate Children's Book Week with a full program packed with fun educational activities based around the CBCA Book Week theme, and the CBCA Book of the Year shortlist. All schools within the Bland Shire have received an invitation to participate in the program, with the Bland Preschool having already booked four sessions.

Making Handmade Paper Workshop – 28 August

Bland Shire Library is excited to be hosting a workshop conducted by Sue Wright of Born in Paper (Byron Bay). Sue's visit to the Bland Shire is part of a regional NSW road trip coordinated in part by Riverina Regional Library. Sue will conduct a two-hour workshop on Monday 28th August, 10am – 12 noon. The cost is \$40 per person with a maximum limit of 12 people. Participants will learn the paper making process, which includes using flowers and seeds, colours and textures. Participants will also receive a special demonstration of making handmade paper little lights.

2024 Author Visit – Date Confirmed

Australia's premier indigenous illustrator and author Dub Leffler will visit the Bland Shire for a five-day residency 4 – 8 March 2024. All schools within the Bland Shire have received notification of Dub Leffler's impending visit. Further information and a reply form re participation will be sent out to schools later in the year.

Promising Career in Library Services

Library Assistant Heidi Robinson has commenced a Diploma, Library and Information Services. Heidi previously completed a two-year traineeship with the library before gaining permanent full-time employment in her current position. It is with great anticipation that the library staff wish Heidi well in her studies and any future endeavours.

RRL Annual Branch Meeting – 30 June

RRL took its annual branch meeting on the road, which proved inspiring, engaging and entertaining. The road trip provided library staff with a first-hand look at some of the branches in our region (on this occasion Coolamon and Temora) who have applied some innovative ideas in their library spaces. The bus also visited the mobile library at Ardlethan, which was a great experience and gave library staff the opportunity to speak with customers. At Temora Library, a video presentation provided by SLNSW regarding the Public Library Infrastructure Grants proved very informative. A note from the meeting – RRL is undertaking consultation regarding the discontinuation of reservation fees from 1 July 2024.

Pictured above is RRL's mobile library, parked at Ardlethan.



Library Managers' Meeting – 9 August

The next Library Managers' South West Zone Meeting is Wednesday 9 August 2023 at Hilltops Young High School Library.

Knit and Knatter – Care for Street Kids

In June, the library sent a large consignment of knitted blankets, beanies, scarves, mittens, teddies, and other items, all hand knitted by the library's resident Knit and Knatter group, to Care for Street Kids, based in Wollongong. Care for Street Kids is a homeless children's charity for kids living on the streets.



Pictured holding a number of knitted blankets is (left) Council's Library Service Coordinator, Cathy Lange, and (right) Barmedman resident and member of the library's Knit and Knatter group, Vicki Harper. The library was bequeathed some two hundred knitted squares which Vicki kindly volunteered to put together to make multiple blankets.

6.10 Children Services June Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP4.2 Provide quality, accredited and affordable Education and Care Services within Bland Shire and surrounds (Bland Preschool, Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, and Toy Library services)

Author: Children Services Coordinator

Where has the year gone? I cannot believe I am writing the June report, time flies when you are having fun, and fun we have certainly had.

Preschool has received its rating from May's Assessment and Rating visit. I am thrilled to announce the Preschool service was rated as 'Meeting' the National Quality Standards. This is a huge accomplishment and one that the Educators are very proud to achieve and maintain. It was even more exciting to receive one 'exceeding' rating for Quality Area 6 - Collaborative partnerships with families and communities. The goal of Educators was to achieve one exceeding quality area rating and this rating was achieved through a critical reflection by educators on the draft report which initially indicated the service had attained a "Meeting" rating for one of the two standards within Quality Area 6.

Educators got together to discuss this outcome and decided to go for the overall 'Exceeding' theme for Quality Area 6 – 'Collaborative partnerships with families and communities'. This area is something we do very well, are very proud of and felt Preschool could provide enough evidence to showcase this. Therefore the Educators met, reflected and discussed ideas to present to the Regulatory Authority, in hopes it would reconsider standard 6.1, and rate this also as exceeding, with the final rating for Preschool as Exceeding in Quality Area 6.

CSU staff Sharon, Ashley and Tracey D worked through the document, (using Educator input) and provided further data and evidence to demonstrate the fantastic and collaborative relationships the centre has with the community and families. The final rating was released Wednesday, 5 July and showed the service had achieved an 'exceeding' outcome. This is a fantastic result for a service which places a high priority on working with its most important stakeholders – the children, their families and the community.

Recruitment/Resignation –

A huge congratulations goes to Megan Daly who successfully completed her Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Teaching) and will attend her graduation ceremony in August. CSU staff are extremely proud of Megan, and know she will continue to do amazing things at the service and for the children who attend.

Trainee Charlotte Whiley completed the placement side of her Diploma. For her placement, Charlotte spent a week at Little Wattle in the baby room to meet the age requirements for her qualification.

With the resignation of Carlie Iverach last month, the recruitment process took place for the Senior Early Childhood position. The decision was taken to hold off on the senior role and offer a teaching role instead. The senior role will be readvertised later in the year. Jordyn Heffernan was the successful applicant and commence at CSU last week. We are confident Jordyn will be a great fit to the team. Thank you must also be extended to Julie Oberg, who ran the class during recruitment.

Mobile Resource Unit – Service Leader, Kate Spackman

Ungarie Mobile Preschool and Friday Junior Preschool

Friday Jnr Preschool celebrated NAIDOC Reconciliation Week with an incursion presented by local Wiradjuri man, Taylor Hampton. Music, movement, stories and artwork were shared and experienced by all. Educators' focus was on developing emotional regulation, prepositions, shape and colour recognition/labelling, friends and spontaneous science experiments. Families were welcomed to join and be part of their child's day at preschool as well as encouraged to share experiences, stories and even pets within their child's class. To finish the term the children came to Preschool dressed in their PJ's and enjoyed an excursion to Tivoli Cinema to watch a Sing-a-long Moana movie.

Ungarie Preschool welcomed a new friend and enjoyed learning and exploring about animals and skeletons. The children created fantastic art using clay and learning all about shapes, as well as empathy and inclusion of everyone within their play.



MRU Enrolments

Wednesday/Thursday Ungarie – 10 children

Friday Gecko class – 18 children

Friday Bilby class – 19 children

Playgroup

With the weather getting colder and the rain appearing more frequently, families have decided to stay at home resulting in fewer families attending playgroup. However, new enrolments continue to be received and the program adapted to suit the conditions.



Bland Preschool –

Winter hit Preschool with a bang during June. Sadly, a lot of children were absent due to varying illnesses, and many with dreaded coughs. But the fun didn't stop. June was jam packed full of great things. We travelled by bus and visited the Library, Splatter Gallery and Tivoli in our PJ's, where we watched 'The Lion King' and munched on some popcorn. Parents and special helpers continued to visit Preschool and spend time in the classroom with their child while getting to know the educational program and Educators. We were lucky to have one of our Dad's come and play the Didgeridoo for us.

To show our commitment and positive relationships to other businesses in the community, four children and two Educators visited Little Wattle to purchase some 'treat plates', in support of its fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House in Wagga. Children enjoyed some biscuits for morning tea. Educators and children discussed how we helped sick children and their families by purchasing the plates and together decided Ronald McDonald House (Wagga Wagga) will be the new donation initiative with money raised from can recycling - a worthy charity that many Preschool and community families utilise when required.



Preschool Enrolments

Monday/Tuesday Bilby Class – 16 children

Wednesday/Thursday Bilby class – 18 children

Wednesday/Thursday Gecko class – 17 children

Bland / Temora Family Day Care – Service Leader, Tracey DeMamiel

Community Child Care Fund (CCCF): The annual review for Sustainability/Community Support performance report was completed and submitted by the CSU Coordinator and FDC Support Officer. This has been assessed and approved for a further 12 months.

New Regulation: The service is in the process of updating all paperwork in preparation of a new regulation stating that all new Educators to Family Day Care must hold a Certificate III in Education and Care or equivalent before commencing with a scheme. Educators previously were able to be working towards a Certificate III.

Educator Work Safety Audit: An Annual safety audit was completed for one of our Temora Educators, with her home and environment being deemed safe for children and families.

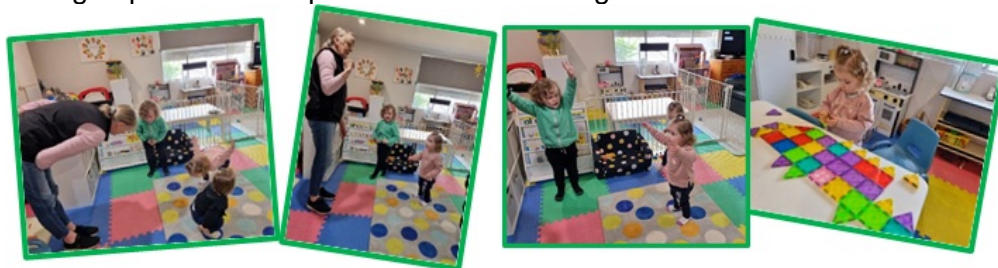
Temora Playgroup: Discussions were held with our Temora Educators regarding their interest in participating in playgroup after a long break due to Covid. The consensus was to start with monthly playgroups and perhaps return to fortnightly. The Support Officer has been in contact



with the people from the church hall where playgroup was formally held. An inspection of the hall will be required to ensure it is still a safe environment for the children.

West Wyalong Playgroup: It was a quiet playgroup with only two children, however participants still had a lot of fun with a farm environment, coffee shop environment and painting to celebrate NAIDOC week.

During the monthly monitoring visit the children enjoyed participating in music and movement during group-time. They loved this interactive group, which encouraged following instructions and building on their gross motor skills. Early maths and science skills were also encouraged through open-ended experiences with the magnetic tiles.



“It takes a village” (ITAV) - Service Leader, Julie Oberg

ITAV supported Playgroup went to Tallimba, West Wyalong CSU and Naradhan in June. The Local Aboriginal Land Council playgroup (LALC) did not go ahead due to nil attendance, which was unusual for this particular venue. Next term, an ITAV playgroup in Ungarie will be added to our rotation of playgroups with a view of discontinuing Naradhan if numbers don't increase. We feel reassured that there will be sufficient numbers to support an ITAV playgroup as several families currently attend a Mobile Resource Unit (MRU) playgroup in Ungarie. Our service will join the MRU service to gauge if those families would like to attend an ITAV playgroup in the future.

New items have been acquired for Toy Library from Raising Wildflowers, a local business that specialises in early childhood toys, games and clothes. It is very pleasing to be able to support a local business and is also beneficial for the service to see the toys before purchase.

The reporting period for the Data Exchange is coming to a close. June 30 is the end of this year's reporting period with 30 days beyond this date before the online portal closes. As a reminder: “The Data Exchange is the program performance solution developed by the Department of Social Services (DSS) in consultation with organisation and clients, in response to the Australian Government commitment to empower civil society organisations. It was developed to improve the way we collect and use administrative data to improve the wellbeing of people and families in our communities”. Australian Government.

The last of our Educational packs have been given out to some appreciative families as the cost of living continues to cause families concern.

Photos from Tallimba, C.S.U and Naradhan below.



6.11 Bland Community Care Services Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP1- Ensure health and support services address the needs of the community

Author: Community Care Coordinator

General Update:

Bland Community Care Service has reached capacity to deliver direct services through the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and is not currently on-boarding new clients other than those who require Social Support – Group.

COMPACKS referrals have recommenced along with the on-boarding of Commonwealth Hope Support Program (CHSP). The demand in the community is high and staff are working through the wait list for services to commence for new clients.

Successful recruitment for a further Support Assistant, has been completed, this will assist in Bland Community Care being able to continue all services when staff are on extended leave and potentially assist in being able to take on any incoming COMPACKS referrals in the near future.



Bland Community Care welcomed three new ladies to the team in the form of three Isla Brown chickens. They have been purchased, are adapting to their new home and have recently started laying eggs. Eggs will be utilised in the centre for cooking and also distributed to group attendees at a small cost. The chooks are very popular with clients who like to admire whilst participating at activity days.

Group Updates:

Bland Blokes continue to meet on a weekly basis. New members are welcome to attend to join in for a cuppa and chat with like-minded people. The trip planned to the Temora Aviation Museum for Tuesday 2 May was postponed. It was decided to postpone until the weather is more appropriate for a day out.

Wednesday Activity Day continues weekly, with group numbers expanding due to promotional materials and the Open Day held during Seniors Week. Group numbers are currently at 18 regular attendees, two of these attend on a fortnightly basis rather than weekly. Due to the recent cold weather, weekly participation has dropped off however on Wednesday 5 July, numbers were back to 14 including our volunteer, Miranda.

Participants enjoy a mix of cognitive and physical activities in the morning, are provided a “home cooked” meal for lunch and play bingo in the afternoon. Recent lunch menu has consisted of lasagne and salad, BBQ rissoles and potato salad and sausages in onion gravy, deconstructed pie, roast chicken and veg and meat loaf and veg.

Gentle Exercises are held each Thursday morning with participants enjoying the gentle exercise program followed by a cuppa and chat. Due to popularity and available space, to ensure safety, a second session has been introduced on Thursday afternoons for our Gentle Exercise Program. Numbers will be capped at 10 participants per session.

Building Occupancy

On Monday 1 May 2023, Kure Medical commenced seeing patients from the Bland Community Care Building. Renovations are complete.



Pictured above: Kure Medical reception area.

6.12 Technical Services Report



Our Places - Maintain & improve the Shire's assets & infrastructure

*DP9.1 Responsibly manage asset renewal and maintenance for current and future generations
DP9.4 Maintain parks, ovals and recreational facilities to approved standards*

Author: Director – Technical Services

1. Council Road Crew Locations Week Commencing 13.6.2023

- Graders
 - East Bland/Pearces
 - Murphys Lane
 - Sandy Creek
 - Merrengreen
 - Warburtons
- Gravel Carting
 - Pipers Pit
- Maintenance Crews (Bobcat/Backhoe)
 - Shire Roads

2. Council Road Crew Locations Week Commencing 19.6.2023

- Graders
 - East Bland/Pearces
 - McMahons
 - Sandy Creek
 - Merrengreen
 - Warburtons
- Gravel Carting
 - Pipers Pit
- Maintenance Crews (Bobcat/Backhoe)
 - Shire Roads

3. Council Road Crew Locations Week Commencing 3.7.2023

- Graders
 - East Bland Pearces
 - McMahons
 - Sandy Creek Road
 - Merrengreen
 - Monia Gap
- Gravel Carting
 - Barrons Pit
- Maintenance Crews (Bobcat/Backhoe)
 - Shire Roads

4. Biosecurity Weeds/Environmental

- Property Inspections – 2
- Council Land Inspections - 6
- Local Land Services Inspections – 8
- Training – Prohibited Matter, Three attended two day course

- Weed of the Month is now published monthly on council face book.
- High Risk Pathway Inspection – , Mid Western Highway, MR57N, MR231, Goldfields Way, Quadialla Road, MR368, MR371, Mary Gilmore, Newell Highway.
- Mowing – Quadialla Road, Greens Lane, Williams Crossing Road, Mary Gilmore, Kildary Road, Alleena Road.
- Spraying (tree suckers) - Arian Park Road (spraying), Browns Lane, (suckers removed by Machine).
- Hazard Reduction – Fire breaks mowed and sprayed Barmedman.
- The following Biosecurity weeds and other controls were undertaken:-
 - Spiny Burr Grass – (Burning) Mangelsdorfs Lane, Sandy Creek Road, Kolkilbertoo Road, Morrisroes Lane.
 - Silver Leaf Nightshade – Arian Park Road.
 - African Boxthorn – Fiegets Lane.
 - Galvanised Burr – Fiegets Lane.
 - Wild Radish – Gunn Road, South Yalgogrin Road, MR57N, MR231, Boramble Road, McCartens Lane, MR371, Fiegerts Lane, Sullivans Lane, Goldfields Way.

6.13 Development Services Activity Report – June 2023



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.2 Ensure Councillors take ownership and a strong leadership role

Author: Planning and Compliance Officer

Planning and Building Activities Update

The following DA applications were approved during June 2023:

Application No	Description	Location	Consent Authority	Approval Date
DA2023/0068	Residential Single Storey Dwelling	60 Mid Western Highway West Wyalong	Staff	14/06/2023
DA2023/0066	Residential Multi-Dwelling Housing	117 Operator Street West Wyalong	Staff	20/06/2023
DA2023/0065	Subdivision (4 Lots into 6 Lots) Including new road)	Central Road West Wyalong	Council	20/06/2023
DA20230060	Residential Alterations & Additions to Existing Dwelling	1 Church Street West Wyalong	Staff	22/06/2023
CDC2023/0008	Housing Alterations and Additions Inground Swimming Pool (Private Certifier Determined)	5495 Quandialla Road Wyalong	Private Certifier	06/06/2023

Regulatory Activities Update

Dog Attacks

There were no dog attacks reported during June 2023

Companion Animal Seizure and Impound Activities June 2023

Seizure Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Seized	2	0
Returned to Owner	0	0

Impounding Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Animals in pound at start of month	4	4
Incoming Animals		
Transferred from Seizure Activities	2	0
Dumped at Pound	0	0
Surrendered	9	0
Total Animals in Pound	15	4

Outgoing Animals		
Released to Owner	0	0
Euthanased	0	0
Rehoused (Rescued)	13	0
Sold	1	0
Died at Pound	0	0
Stolen	0	0
Escaped	0	0
Total Animals Leaving Pound	14	0
Animals in Pound at end of Month	1	4

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.6 Regular consultation with key industry, business and stakeholders

Committee	Date/s	Minutes Attached
Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee	4 July 2023	✓
Mining & Energy Related Councils	9 June 2023	✓
	28 June 2023	✓
CEMCC	7 June 2023	✓
REROC	23 June 2023	✓
RIVJO	23 June 2023	✓

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the Committee meeting minutes as presented.

1. WELCOME

The meeting was opened by Elizabeth Smith.

ATTENDANCE:

Elizabeth Smith (Temora Shire Council) – via video link, Councillor Tony Lord (Bland Shire Council), Leesa Bryant (Bland Shire Council), Brad Bohun (Crowe Australasia), Min Lee (Audit Office of NSW) – via video link, David Wardell (Bland Shire Council) Alison Balind (Bland Shire Council) minute taker.

APOLOGIES – Mr Gary Lavelle PSM (Temora Shire Council) and Grant Baker (Bland Shire Council)

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord and seconded Elizabeth Smith that the apologies be noted and accepted.

CARRIED

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes from the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held 9 March 2023.

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord and seconded Elizabeth Smith that the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 9 March 2023 be endorsed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

3. MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that while Mr Lavelle was listed as an apology for the meeting, as he has retired from his role at Temora Shire Council, future attendance at the Bland Shire ARIC would be by the new General Manager, Melissa Boxall.

4. EXTERNAL AUDIT – INTERIM AUDIT UPDATE

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord and seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information the update provided by Brad Bohun.

CARRIED

5. INTERNAL AUDIT – BRIEFING PAPER FOR ALLIANCE COUNCILS - GUIDELINES FOR RISK MANAGEMENT & INTERNAL AUDIT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN NSW

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord and seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes the report on the Briefing Paper for Alliance Councils - Guidelines for Risk Management & Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW.

CARRIED

6. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS UPDATE

There was no updated provided to the meeting on the Internal Audit Programs.

7. BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

RESOLVED on the motion of Cllr Tony Lord and seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information the Bland Shire Council Risk Management Report.

8. CYBER HYGIENE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CHIPs) QUARTERLY REPORT

RESOLVED on the motion of Cllr Tony Lord and seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information the Bland Shire Council Cyber Hygiene Improvement Program Quarterly Report.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

10. MEETING DATES

The date of the next Bland Shire Council Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting proposed for 2pm, Tuesday 7 November, 2023.

11. CLOSE OF MEETING

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCIL'S (NSW) INCORPORATED, IN PERSON AND CONDUCTED BY VIDEO CONFERENCE (ZOOM) DUBBO RSL, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, NSW. 9th June 2023.

Present

Cr Kevin Duffy (Chair)	Orange City Council
Cr Dennis Brady (Dep Chair)	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr Denis Todd - by zoom	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cr Liz McGlynn	Bland Shire Council
Greg Lamont (as the minute taker)	MERC - Executive Officer

1. Welcome

The Chair, Councillor Kevin Duffy welcomed Executive Committee members and opened the meeting at 8.10am

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the land that the meeting was held on and paid his respects to the Elders past, present & emerging.

3. Apologies – Cr Phyllis Miller OAM & Cr Scott Ferguson

EM 8/2023 Resolved Brady/McGlynn Apologies from Crs Miller & Ferguson be received and noted.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests – Nil

5. Executive Officer's Report

- i. **Correspondence**
- ii. **Finance Report 1st Jan 2023-31st March 2023**
- iii. **Meetings with Ministers & Senior Government Staff**
- iv. **Membership of MERC**
- v. **Submissions**
- vi. **Progress Report on Outstanding Decisions of Association**
- vii. **Progress Report on Strategic Plan 2023 – 2026 Actions**
- viii. **Renewable Energy Zones Update**
- ix. **RDA Orana & Inland NSW Growth Alliance Update**
- x. **Resources for Regions Round 9 Update**

EM 9/2023 Resolved (Cr McGlynn/Cr Brady) that Items (5) i-x, the information be noted.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCIL'S (NSW) INCORPORATED, IN PERSON AND CONDUCTED BY VIDEO CONFERENCE (ZOOM) DUBBO RSL, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, NSW. 9th June 2023.

(b) For decision:

i. Executive Officer's (EO) Replacement Process

EM 10/2023 Resolved (Cr Duffy/Cr Brady) That

1.The Executive Officer submit a report to Executive Committee for determination of options and process to follow for replacement of Executive Officer, as soon as practicable to ensure transparency and clarity.

2. The Executive Officer contract be extended to 11th September 2023.

6. General Business

(a) Location/dates for next meetings in 2022/23

EM 11/2023 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Duffy) This item to be discussed with delegates in the Ordinary meeting.

(b) Life Memberships – That the information be noted.

7. Close – the meeting closed at 8.45am.

The Executive Committee minutes (pages 1-2) were confirmed at the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 9th June 2023 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the meeting held on 9th June 2023

.....Cr Kevin Duffy
Chairperson

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

Present in person.

Cr Kevin Duffy (Chair)
Cr Dennis Brady (Deputy Chair)
Cr Liz McGlynn (Ex Comm)
Cr Mathew Deeth
Gary Woodman
Steve Loane OAM
Cr Peter Batten
Cr Jim Hickey
Cr Mathew Dickerson
Murray Wood
Cr Jason Hamling
Brad Cam
Ron Zwicker
Carly Hunter

Orange City Council
Lachlan Shire Council
Bland Shire Council
Wollondilly Shire Council
Warren Shire Council
Forbes Shire Council
Cabonne Shire Council
Broken Hill City Council
Dubbo Regional Council
Dubbo Regional Council
Orange City Council
Mid-Western Regional Council
Wollongong City Council
Cobar Shire Council

By Zoom

Cr Denis Todd (Ex Comm)
Cr Michael Banasik

Warrumbungle Shire Council
Wollondilly Shire Council

Apologies

Cr Dom Figliomeni
Cr Cath Blakey
Heather Nicholls
Cr Phyllis Miller OAM (Dep Chair)
Cr Scott Ferguson (Ex Comm)
Mark Dicker
Kent Boyd
Peter Vlatko
Cr Peter Abbott
Cr Jarrod Marsden
Cr Des Kennedy
Cath Blakey
Greg Tory
Cr Jane Keir
Hugh Percy
Cr Ros Jackson
Cr Katrina Walker
Cr Pam Kensit
Alex Waldron
Cr Aneillo Iannuzzi
Hon Ron Hoenig
Hon Courtney Housoss
Hon Penny Sharpe
Roy Butler

Wollongong City Council
Wollongong City Council
Cabonne Shire Council
Forbes Shire Council
Blayney Shire Council (Ex Comm)
Blayney Shire Council
Parkes Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council
Mid-Western Regional Council
Wollongong City Council
Lachlan Shire Council
Walgett Shire Council
Walgett Shire Council
Warren Shire Council
Warren Shire Council
Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Warrumbungle Shire Council
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Natural Resources
Minister for Climate Change, Energy etc.
MP Barwon, Independent

In attendance

Greg Lamont, Executive Officer (Minute Taker), Liza Schiff (Melting Pot Planning), Megan Dixon, (RDA Orana), Georgia Sellings (Evolution Mining), Rachel Nicholl (Dept Regional NSW), Jennifer White, Michael Kniepp and Mary Murray (The Stable Group). Luke Goudge, (Service NSW for Business), Amer Hussein and Martin Rush, (Future Together Group), Peter & Julie Shinton, and Dugald Saunders, MP Dubbo, Leader NSW Nationals.

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

1. Welcome.

(i) The Chair, Councillor Kevin Duffy, welcomed members (in person and by zoom) to the meeting and declared the meeting open at 9.05am. Chair also acknowledged the presence of Dugald Saunders, MP Dubbo, Leader of NSW National Party; Brad Cam as Chair RDA Orana & Housing Plus; Megan Dixon, CEO RDA Orana; observers plus former Chair Peter Shinton and wife Julie.

(ii) Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council, Cr Mathew Dickerson, addressed delegates and welcomed them into the Dubbo regional area outlining the growth and advancement of the mining & renewable energy developments that are underway.

(iii) Local Member for Dubbo, Leader of Nationals, Dugald Saunders, addressed delegates and outlined the growth of mining & energy in the Central west region and the Critical Minerals Hub set up by the previous government and welcomed delegates to the region.

2. Acknowledgement of Country by Chair

"I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land that we meet on today and pay our respects to the Elders past, present & emerging".

3. Apologies.

OM 7/2023 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr McGlynn) that the apologies as per the above list be received and noted.

4. Disclosures of Interest.

Ron Zwicker declared a non-significant pecuniary interest with his shares in AGL.

OM 8/2023 Resolved (Cr McGlynn/Cr Hickey) that the disclosures of interest be received and noted.

5. Adoption of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22nd February 2023

OM 9/2023 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Hickey) that the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 22nd February 2023 be received and noted.

6. Business Arising from Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 22nd February 2023 – Nil

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS AT 9.20am

OM 10/2023 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cam) that the meeting be suspended at 9.20am to conduct the life membership ceremony for former Chair of MERC, ex councillor Peter Shinton, to undertake a de-brief on the Resources, Energy, Industry & Innovation Forum.

(1) Life Membership – Peter Shinton. The Chair assisted by local MP for Dubbo, Dugald Saunders presented Peter with plaque and badge for his years as delegate to the Association from Warrumbungle Shire Council and the Coonabarabran Shire Council. The Chair had this to say:

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

"It is indeed a privilege for me today, as Chair of the Association Mining & Energy Related Councils in NSW, to acknowledge the outstanding service to the Association of the former Chair of this Association, Peter Shinton from Coonabarabran.

Peter is here with us today, accompanied by his lovely wife and sometimes advisor Julie. Welcome to you both.

Peter has served his community for over 26 years, as a Councillor, and a Mayor for 16 years of them, which is an eternity in any profession and a very long time to be in Local Government. No doubt he has some stories to tell.

He was a Councillor on Coonabarabran Shire Council from 1995 to 2004 and it's last Mayor in 2004, when it amalgamated with Coolah Shire Council to form the current Warrumbungle Shire Council. He remained on Council until the Covid delayed December elections in 2021.

During these years, Peter became the delegate to the Association of Mining Related Councils from 2011 to 2021 and its chairman from 2014 to 2021 when its first Three Year Strategic Plan was adopted, and name changed during the period to Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils in NSW.

What is unique about Warrumbungle Shire Council's membership of the Association is that it has no mining or renewable energy developments operating but has coal mining offsets in its boundaries and is gearing up for the installation of hundreds of wind turbines in the Coolah Tops area that has been in the planning system for many years.

Peter's main strength was his level-headed demeanour and wily leadership as the Chair of MERC for 6 years and a delegate for over 20 years. His background as a geologist was a big asset to assist in providing advice to delegates at meetings and for their Councils.

His specific interests as a Chair and delegate to MERC where he participated in leading discussions with government officials in workshops and meetings, were:

- As a participant in the VPA Working Party with NSW Minerals Council members and their consultants that developed a template for Councils when negotiating VPA's to be compensated for effects of mining on a community.*
- Attending meetings with senior government officials to develop criteria for the current rounds of Resources/Royalties for Regions to realize and compensate for the mismatch between where the resource is extracted and where the royalties are expended.*
- Representations to government officials and leaders on the disparity of rate pegging and the mining rate which prevented any reward being gained for consumption of local assets by resource companies to local government.*

Peter always said the best assets for the Association are the delegates, their interest in and understanding of the mining and energy resource sectors, the array of guest speakers, the management of finances and the site visits organized by the Executive

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

Officer. These are the core values of our Association that has held MERC in good stead over the test of time. Delegates have recognized the efforts and leadership of Peter on behalf of the Association and endorsed his nomination for Life Membership in September 2022.

This Life Membership award is in recognition of Peter's service in making a significant contribution to the success of the Association, as the peak body in NSW, empowering, resourcing and advocating on behalf of Councils in NSW that are impacted by mining and energy.

Delegates, in closing, it is an honour for me today to be able to bestow this Life Membership on the former Chair, Peter Shinton on behalf of our Association by pinning the Life Membership badge on his lapel and providing a plaque which can be displayed at home on his mantelpiece or office to remind him of this day.

Response from Peter: *'I am delighted, honoured, and humbled to accept this life membership today for something that I enjoyed being part of. My interest in MERC started back in 2011 when I attended a meeting of the Association in Newcastle.*

Before that our Shire was involved with a poor thermal coal deposit that was to be mined near Dunedoo and belonged to the NSW State Government - the Cobbora Coal Deposit. Even with the negotiation skills of our General Manager Steve Loane with us, we failed to have a worthwhile voluntary agreement and it never progressed.

However, back in 2011, I met the Executive Officer of this Association at the time, (Margaret McDonald-Hill) and I have kept that association going since then. I remember Margaret was working on a submission to the NSW State Government on 'Royalties to be returned to Regions' and of the 25 delegates present on that day only one (Wincen Guy, then Mayor of Broken Hill) was not in favour because he thought that more would be lost than gained by this provocative move!!!!

Over the years, Warrumbungle Shire did not miss a meeting and we used the expertise of mentors such as Margaret, former Mayors Neville Castle (Lithgow), John Martin (Singleton) and Lillian Brady (Cobar) to help promote our cause and the understanding of mining in NSW.

Through the tutelage of Greg Lamont, we took to alternate energies to increase membership and understanding of where the future would be for Local Government. It was there that I met Owen Hasler from Gunnedah Shire with his fierce union acquired negotiation skills and he was always willing to attend meetings, gatherings and represent the MERC cause when I or Greg could not attend.

It has been a great group of delegates over the years and as such I have made some strong relationships that I will ensure continue. Thank you for your life membership recognition'.

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

(2) Megan Dixon/Brad Cam- RDA Orana De-brief on REIIF. A brief discussion was held on the recent REIIF, held in Dubbo from 6th to 9th June 2023, culminating in the MERC meeting. There were 64 speakers on and off site at Rhino Lodge, Dubbo and utilised 15 different local regional vendors for the staging of the event in concert with MERC, 600 tickets sold. It was agreed that the full statistics be provided to MERC to distribute to delegates when a report is to hand from RDA Orana. Other comments were:

- Need to start marketing at least 6 months out, lock in dates, don't change them if can be helped, however process is all set up now and planning started already, so should not be a major issue in the future.
- Could be an annual conference, shorter and more specific to MERC/Councils.
- Have the MERC meeting on the day before the conference to encourage more delegates to attend the sessions next day to learn more about energy & resources changes.
- Ministers invited to be programmed to stay to hear experts and comments.
- Transport to/from venues contacts, directions/times on daily programs would assist.
- Overall, very well done by Megan, Kate, Kelly & Zannat – well received by all who attended for the sessions.
- A Report will be provided to MERC from RDA Orana on the event.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS AT 10.15am

OM 11/2023 Resolved (Cr Batten/Loane) that the meeting be resumed at 10.15am to continue with the meeting items.

7. Adoption of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 9th June 2023

OM 12/2023 Resolved (Cr McGlynn/Cr Brady) that adoption of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 9th June 2023 be deferred until after the Executive Officer provides a background report on the items & recommendations.

Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer went through the items in the Executive Officer's report that related to matters on the Agenda for this meeting prior to the adoption of them.

OM 13/2023 Resolved (Cr Todd/Cr Brady) that the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 9th June 2023 be received and noted.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on 9th June 2023 – Nil

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS AT 10.35am

OM 14/2023 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cam) that the meeting be suspended at 10.35am for morning tea with speakers, life membership recipient and wife plus to receive the presentation from the Future Together Group speakers.

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

Amer Hussein & Martin Rush – Future Together Group (FTG) Amer Hussein, contacted the Executive Officer on Friday 2nd June 2023 (after the business paper had been issued) requesting an opportunity to address MERC on work they had been doing with Lithgow City Council in relation to Royalties for Rejuvenation Grant Program. The FTG were engaged by Lithgow City Council to:

1. project manage the development of Council's transition and emerging economies plan – partly funded by the State Government,
2. review Council's financial sustainability and transition preparedness,
3. review Council's quarrying, mining, and energy impacted road network, and
4. develop Council's transition policy framework and next steps for Government.

Part of their brief is to share learnings with other NSW councils likely to be impacted by the de-carbonisation of the economy and energy transition.

They have been working with Lithgow City Council (and Muswellbrook Shire Council) in relation to the opportunities that exist with Royalties for Rejuvenation and the Expert Panels appointed under the Mining Act in some of the four regions of NSW – Hunter, Central West, Northwest & Illawarra.

Consequently, the main speaker for FTG was Martin Rush (he is the former Mayor of Muswellbrook Shire Council, Barrister, and legal expert on Mining and Local Government matters such as Planning Agreements, Royalties for Regions and Rates). He had this to say:

"The new NSW Government is planning to review what is in place and develop Transition Authorities which will be independent of State and Federal Governments. There is no alignment of the State and Federal Governments with this and there must be a whole of government process with Planning & Resources Ministers involved and a "White Paper" developed for Government to legislate changes is needed as facts and evidence matter, backed by technical reports that MERC has done in the past with the working parties.

MERC can be part of this process for councils by addressing the 'Policy Gaps' and offer a better value proposition for membership.

Muswellbrook has already set up a Standing Committee on the Transition to address what is before them with relevant unions, businesses and community groups involved to work with transferring skills once the mines close, to renewable energy developments and other value-added industries.

Lithgow is waiting on FTG to report back to determine what they do as per the brief above. Details are in the following slides that he spoke to using Muswellbrook Shire Council as an example of what can be done.

Transition Management:

- Transition is well underway in NSW coal communities – even where there is little apparent change in key economic indicia.
- Changes in forward capital investment and ownership are leading indicators of structural adjustment.
- Economic transitions management is notoriously difficult. There are many more examples of failure than success.

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

- Successful transitions require:
 - shared accountability and governance,
 - early and robust identification of relative strengths,
 - strategic and sustainable investments, and
 - adequate and well-sequenced funding.
- Expert opinion suggest the Hunter will require ~\$650M to \$1B to achieve a successful economic and social transition. In Lithgow that figure is between \$150M to \$400M.
- Early intervention and coordination significantly reduce investments required.

Transition Authorities:

- A leading practice authority will have a governance structure and area of operation that matches the economic catchment.
- Although structural adjustment is a State Government responsibility, it requires actors and resources that reach beyond the State Government.
- Business and unions working collaboratively on whole-of-family support and adjustment programs, and worker transfer schemes.
- Schools, VET sector, universities, industry, and government collaborating on building the regional workforce's adaptive capacity.

Financial Sustainability & Transitional Preparedness:

- All levels of government supporting new industry growth with well-planned and sequenced infrastructure.
- Industry, knowledge providers and government collaboratively building a region-wide culture of innovation, investment, acceleration, and scaling.
- Lithgow had ongoing structural deficits at existing agreed levels of service.
- Inter-category rating analysis revealed significant cross-subsidies of and between industries and opportunities for a substantial realignment of the rating burden.
- Mining related councils in NSW, by mine rating, fall into one of two categories because of the practical application of a High Court decision.
- Levying of similar rates to those levied by councils in the higher category was justifiable. That finding proceeded from a rational analysis of the consumption of Council resources by the mining industry.
- Workforce and community adaptability plans should be undertaken early, and key findings implemented. This yields the highest return on investment.

Policy Gaps:

- Clarity is required in the governance framework.
- Current legislative framework only covers mining activities and does not extend to power stations which are likely to close much earlier.
- State and Federal frameworks are not aligned.
- Vertical misalignment within the State government on transitions.
- Present framework promotes a fragmentation of accountabilities rather than a focus for shared accountability.
- Evidence-based decision-making is not embedded in the framework.

(Slides will be distributed to delegates. Note the background notes to what speaker talking about, following)

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

Background - Royalties for Rejuvenation In March 2021, the Government established the \$300.million Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund under the Mining Amendment (Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund) Regulation 2021 under the Mining Act 1992. These funds will be available on a basis of \$25m pa to help regional coal mining communities' transition as the global economy moves away from carbon-based energy options for these 14 coal mining areas: - City of Cessnock, Gunnedah, City of Lake Macquarie, City of Lithgow, Liverpool Plains, City of Maitland, Mid-Western Regional, Muswellbrook, Narrabri, City of Newcastle, Singleton, Upper Hunter Shire, Wollondilly and City of Wollongong.

An expert panel covering each of the regions has been established following a recruitment process, where existing councillors cannot sit on the panel and the Minister appoints the Chair, the organisation structure is as follows:

- Northwest (Gunnedah, Narrabri & Liverpool Plains Shires, Chair is Andrew Johns).
- Central West (Mid-Western & Lithgow, Chair is Brad Cam).
- Illawarra (Wollongong & Wollondilly, Chair is Bianca Perry).
- Hunter (Newcastle, Cessnock, Singleton, Muswellbrook, Lake Macquarie, Upper Hunter and Maitland, Chair is Bob Hawes).

The expert panels have already had several meetings and will consider business cases for investments that will benefit coal mining and their functions are under the Mining Act 1992, section 292X(4)(b), of advising the Minister about the following matters: -

- (a) the consequences and opportunities associated with moving away from coal mining, particularly in relation to the impact on employment and economic activity in the affected coal mining region,
- (b) alternative land uses of coal mining sites,
- (c) the outcome of public consultation about—
 - (i) options to support the economic diversification of the affected coal mining region in alternative industries, and
 - (ii) the affected coal mining region's reliance on coal mining for employment and economic activity.

(Further details on the functions and governance of each of these panels is on the web page for www.nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/...../royalties-for-rejuvenation-fund)

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS AT 11.25am

OM 15/2023 Resolved (Cr Deeth/Loane) that the meeting be resumed at 11.25am to continue with the meeting items.

9. Delegates Reports – Nil.

10. Speakers - As above

11. Executive Officer's Report – Dealt with in Item 7

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

12. General Business

- (a) Next Meeting Cr Hambling raised the need for next MERC meeting in August to be held in Parliament House during sitting times, to attract Ministers to address delegates on critical issues. Executive Officer to arrange.

OM 16/2023 Resolved (Cr Hambling/Deeth) that the next meeting of MERC be held in NSW Parliament House during sitting times in August, on a date as determined by the Executive Committee.

- (b) Resources for Regions Program. Cr Deeth proposed that a motion be considered by MERC to have the Minister for Resources retain and improve the Resources for Regions Program.

OM 17/2023 Resolved (Cr Deeth/Hambling) that MERC:

- (1) Jointly writes (with the mayors of all member councils) to the Minister for Resources, Hon Courtney Houssos, the Premier, Treasurer and other relevant Ministers and Shadow Opposition members, in strongly recommending that the current Resources for Regions Program be retained at current funding levels, and it be improved to include other mining affected LGA's and communities.
 - (2). Writes to the Minister for Resources, requesting a meeting with the Chair & Executive Officer of MERC to discuss the issues in (1).
 - (3). Invite the Minister to attend our next meeting (at her convenience) to further update member Councils on proposed changes being made by the Government.
 - (4). Request that MERC to "have a seat at the table" in relation to the Resources for Regions Program review.
 - (5). A copy of the letter be sent to local Members of Parliament, Roy Butler, Phil Donato, Dugald Saunders, Jenny Aitcheson and Minister for Energy, Climate Change, Environment & Heritage, Hon Penny Sharpe.
- (c) MERC Strategic Direction. Cr McGlynn raised concerns with MERC's direction, with the inclusion of renewable energy in its Strategic Direction. Cr McGlynn felt that former members, may have the wrong impression of what MERC is about, given that it commenced looking after "coal" affected LGA communities and had embraced minerals and renewables vigorously in recent times. Perhaps there is a misconception of its representation as an Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils not just renewables.

OM 18/2023 Resolved (Cr McLynn/Loane) that MERC:

- (1) Write to all coal mining affected councils in NSW to outline MERC's position 'that whilst MERC as an evolving entity is addressing the needs of local council members for mining & energy, as they arise, it has included renewable energy in its current Three-Year Strategic Plan 2023-2026 actions, that there may be a misconception that MERC doesn't embrace coal mining LGA's anymore, which is incorrect',
- (2) When undertaking (1), ensure that the letter outlines the benefits of being a member of MERC and requesting that they consider joining or re-joining to ensure a stronger voice for all mining councils in NSW.
- (3) The MERC Executive Officer and Chair will visit where necessary.

MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCILS (NSW) INC. ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT DUBBO RSL CLUB, STARLIGHT ROOM, BRISBANE ST, DUBBO, 9th JUNE 2023

(d) RDA Orana REIIF Event

OM 19/2023 Resolved (Cr Duffy/Brady) that the Executive Officer organise a thank you gift for the event planning staff at RDA Orana and thank them for their assistance in conducting the inaugural Resources and Energy Forum

Close – the meeting closed at 12.35pm

DRAFT

The minutes (pages 1-8) were confirmed at a meeting of the Ordinary Meeting held on the August 2023 and are a concise and accurate record of proceedings of the Ordinary General meeting held on 9th June 2023.

.....
Cr Kevin Duffy
Chairperson

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINING & ENERGY RELATED COUNCIL'S (NSW) INCORPORATED, CONDUCTED BY VIDEO CONFERENCE (ZOOM) 28th June 2023.

Present

Cr Kevin Duffy (Chair)	Orange City Council
Cr Dennis Brady (Dep Chair)	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr Phyllis Miller OAM	Forbes Shire Council
Cr Denis Todd	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cr Liz McGlynn	Bland Shire Council
Cr Scott Ferguson	Blayney Shire Council
Greg Lamont (as the minute taker)	MERC - Executive Officer

1. Welcome

The Chair, Councillor Kevin Duffy welcomed Executive Committee members and opened the meeting at 4.32pm

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the land that the meeting was held on and paid his respects to the Elders past, present & emerging.

3. Apologies – Nil

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests – Nil

5. Executive Officer's Report

(i) Executive Officer Replacement Process

EM 12/2023 Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Ferguson) that LGNSW Management Solutions proposal be distributed (when received) to Executive Committee for consideration and the position description and package be reviewed as soon as possible to expedite the recruitment of a replacement Executive Officer.

(ii) Next meeting NSW Parliament House Speakers

EM 13/2023 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr Todd) that the item be noted.

(iii) Review Resources Energy Industry& Innovation Forum

EM 14/2023 Resolved (Cr Brady/Cr McGlynn) that a report be submitted to Executive Committee to consider when review from RDA Orana is received.

(iv) Engagement of FTG

EM 15/2023 Resolved (Cr Miller/Cr Ferguson) that a report be submitted to Executive Committee to further consider in due course.

6. Close – the meeting closed at 4.55pm.

The Executive Committee minutes (pages 1-2) were confirmed at the Ordinary General Meeting held on the 3rd August 2023 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the meeting held on 28th June 2023

.....Cr Kevin Duffy
Chairperson

MINUTES OF MEETING

Cowal Gold Operations

Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee (CEMCC)

Date: Wednesday 7 June 2023
Time: 10.00am, Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation
Minutes taken by: Lynsey Reilly

Attendees:

Independent Chairperson: Lisa Andrews (LA) *
 Evolution: Grace Derrick (GD), Lynsey Reilly (LR), Ivan Arcayo (IA)
 Community Members: Lucy Buttenshaw (LB)*, Angus Stitt (AS), Bruce Dent (BD)
 Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation: Ily Coe (AC), Vicki Swadling (VS), Nicole Smith (NS)
 Forbes Shire Council: Cr Chris Roylance (CR), Cr Brian Mattiske (BM)
 Bland Shire Council: Cr Elizabeth McGlynn (EM)

Apologies: Kate Dean (KD), Renee Pettit (RP), Cr Dennis Brady (DB)

**Attended meeting remotely*

ITEM			ACTION
1. Welcome Independent Chair, LA, opened the meeting at 10.07 am and welcomed all in attendance thanking EVN for allowing her to chair the CCC remotely. Acknowledgment of Country.			
2. Declaration of Interest LA advised there were no changes to previous declarations by CEMCC members, nor to hers; Independent Chair of the CEMCC, appointed by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, and receives payment via a Trust established by the Bland Shire Council.			
3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes Moved by: AS Seconded by: CR			
4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes			Action 1: LA to write to Lake Cowal Foundation, inviting them to nominate a representative on this CEMCC.
ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY	
1	Submission of CEMCC code of conduct and declaration of pecuniary & non-pecuniary interest forms. Complete 2/6/23.	LA & NS	
2	EVN to contact relevant department to establish if it is a legal requirement to have an independent Scientist attending the CEMCC meetings. Complete. Not a requirement to have Independent Scientist but representative from Lake Cowal Foundation.	GD	

3	EVN to provide CEMCC meeting attendees' information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available. Keep action	GD	Action 2: EVN to provide CEMCC meeting attendees' information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available.
4	EVN to share links of the resource regulation of the mining lease updates. Completed.	GD	
5	Send link to Facebook Page. Complete – included with the minutes.		
5. Correspondence (as emailed with the meeting notice on 18/5/23 with 2 additional items) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12/4/23 - Email to members with the draft minutes for review/comment. 20/4/23 – Email to members advising that no changes to draft minutes. 18/5/23 – Email members with Meeting Notice & Agenda for this meeting. 29/5/23 – Email from GD introducing Ivan Arcayo, new Sustainability Superintendent with EVN. 2/6/23 – Email from NS with her completed governance forms. 			
6. Reports <p>GD provided a detailed account of Cowal Gold Operations (CGO's) Environment Department's activities over the last quarter and a status of the underground project along with an update of the OPC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA to send link to 2022 Annual Review which is now available on the project website. LA asked for EVN to provide CEMCC members with notification when OPC goes on Exhibition. <p>LA noted that she received a call from a community member questioning a drilling rig incident at CGO. GD advised that CGO had an incident on 4 June where a rock was dislodged and made contact with an unmanned drill rig. There were no injuries. This event was reported to the NSW Resource Regulator as EVN is required to do under the Work Health & Safety Regulations. An investigation is underway to identify cause and preventative measures. LA asked for EVN to provide investigation findings, when completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LR provided details of community complaints and the activities and support undertaken by the Cowal Community and External Relations team in the previous quarter. <p>See attached presentation.</p>			<p>Action 3: LA to send link to 2022 AR.</p> <p>Action 4: EVN to provide drill rig investigation findings once completed.</p>
General Business <p>CR flagged that he had discussions with the Federal Government regarding its plans to install more desalinisation plants in rural communities.</p> <p>GD responded with it being an expensive technology that doesn't always deliver the results expected, but EVN would always open to having the conversation.</p>			Action 5: EVN to address light on Webster's Road pumping station. Poor visibility at nighttime.

<p>EM then flagged the history of expensive desalination plants being built in Australia, but never operated, therefore she doesn't have a lot of faith in the initiative.</p> <p>AC spoke about a recent meeting with EVN Red Lake and their Elders. He complimented how EVN manages relationships with traditional owners.</p> <p>BS raised the issue of a light on Websters Road on a pumping station that makes it hard to see at night when driving and needs adjusting.</p> <p>CR also acknowledged EVN financial support.</p> <p>BM asked if Newcrest Mining had an interest in EVN as he received a vendor form with their logo on it. Communicated that this was an error and no validation to this query.</p>	
<p>7. Meeting Schedule for 2023, all starting at 9.00am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 6th of September Evolution Town Office, followed by inspection of new accommodation facilities. Wednesday 29th of November Forbes Shire Council. 	
<p>8. Meeting Closed – 9.50am with LA thanking all for their attendance</p>	

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Write to Lake Cowal Foundation, inviting them to nominate a representative on this CEMCC.	LA
2	EVN to provide CEMCC meeting attendees' information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available.	EVN (ongoing)
3	Send link to 2022 AR.	LA
4	EVN to provide drill rig investigation findings once completed.	EVN
5	EVN to address light on Webster's Road pumping station night when driving and needs adjusting.	EVN

RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
held at Wagga Wagga Country Club, Plumpton Rd, Wagga Wagga
Friday 23 June 2023

Meeting opened at 10.45 a.m.

PRESENT

Grant Baker	Bland Shire Council	
Cr Brian Monaghan	Bland Shire Council	
Cr David McCann OAM	Coolamon Shire Council	
Tony Donoghue PSM	Coolamon Shire Council	
Cr Charlie Sheahan	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	
Stephen McGrath	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	
Cr Tony Quinn	Greater Hume Shire Council	
Evelyn Arnold	Greater Hume Shire Council	
Cr Neil Smith	Junee Shire Council	
Cr Greg Verdon	Lockhart Shire Council	
Peter Veneris	Lockhart Shire Council	
Cr Rick Firman OAM	Independent Chairman	
Gary Lavelle PSM	Temora Shire Council	Observer
Cr Graham Sinclair	Temora Shire Councils	
Julie Briggs	REROC	
Jenny Pideski	REROC	
William Adlong	REROC	
Helen Mundy	REROC	
Matthew Dudley	RAMJO/REROC	

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith, seconded Cr C. Sheahan that apologies be received from Cr M. Stadtmiller, A, Drenovski J. Davis, R. Whiting and G. Butler.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith, seconded Cr. C. Sheahan that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2023 be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING

Letter to the EPA about FOGO Grant – the letter has been sent to the EPA.

60 Day Dispensing– a letter has been sent to the Federal Minister for Health.

Investment NSW Workshop on Developing a Value Proposition for the Region – this remains outstanding.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. C. Sheahan, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that the correspondence be received.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

J. Briggs, H. Munday, J. Pideski and H. Munday left the room at 10.50a.m.

Chief Executive Officer Contract

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. G. Verdon, seconded Cr. D. McCann that the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Treasurer be appointed to work with the CEO regarding proposed contract/negotiations for a succession plan and provide a report to the Board within 6 weeks.

J. Briggs, H. Munday, J. Pideski and H. Munday returned to the meeting at 11.15 a.m.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The report was tabled. J Briggs raised the following issues with Members:

Meeting with the Minister for Emergency Services, Hon Jihad Dib MP - noted.

Meeting with the Minister for Local Government – noted.

Meeting at Parliament House – noted.

Moving Forward: One Organisation – noted.

Review of the REROC Constitution – noted.

Health and Knowledge Precinct – Members agreed that there should be Local Government representation on the Precinct Board and that it should be drawn from REROC and RAMJO with Wagga Wagga City and Griffith City also represented because they are the regional headquarters for health activities.

Associate Membership of the Country Mayors' Association

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. N. Smith, seconded Cr. D. McCann by a vote of 7 to 6 that REROC apply to become an Associate Member of the Country Mayor's Association.

Members noted that membership of the CMA was on an annual basis.

Associate Membership of LGNSW

RESOLVED on the motion of G. Lavelle, seconded Cr. N. Smith that REROC not join the LGNSW at this time.

Rates Methodology Review.

RESOLVED on the motion of S. McGrath, seconded Cr. G. Verdon that REROC prepare and lodge a response to the IPART Draft Report on the Rate Pegging Methodology.

Guidelines for funding on FOGO Collection Grants – noted.

Disaster Risk Recovery Funding

J. Briggs advised that the DRRF Group of JOs and ROCs wanted to collaborate on advocacy relating to betterment (mitigation) funding in relation to infrastructure repairs on roads. She noted that the meeting with the Minister for Emergency Services would be an opportunity to raise the problem.

In addition, the Group wants to enter into a partnership on its advocacy with IPWEA NSW.

RESOLVED on the motion of P. Veneris, seconded G. Baker that REROC support joint advocacy in relation to the betterment issue.

RESOLVED on the motion of P. Veneris, seconded T. Donoghue that REROC adopt the Terms of Reference for the DRRF Project Steering Committee.

EOI for ARENA Funding for Community Batteries

RESOLVED on the motion of P. Veneris, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that REROC support the EOI for ARENA funding for the deployment of community batteries which is being driven by the JONZA program.

NSW Planning Portal – lack of recognition of County Councils as Approval Authorities

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr G. Verdon, seconded S. McGrath that REROC continue to liaise with Goldenfields Water on the issue and determine what support REROC can provide that will result in the resolution of the problem.

Bin Trim Grant– noted.

Southern Lights

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith, seconded T. Donoghue that the REROC Board adopt the Southern Lights submission to the AER on Essential Energy's street lighting pricing proposal.

EPA Emergency Waste Plan – noted.

Recognition of Local Water Utilities in the NSW Constitution

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr G. Verdon, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that REROC maintain a watching brief on the proposed review and respond to any opportunities to contribute to the Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D. McCann, seconded Cr. N. Smith that CEO's Report be received.

RESOURCE SHARING REPORT

The report was tabled. J Briggs raised the following issues with Members:

Planning Technical Group

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr G. Verdon, seconded Cr. N Smith that REROC:

1. Write to the new Minister for the Environment to again raise the issue of the inadequacy of council PINs for unauthorised land clearing.
2. Write to the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Planning to ask when the Manufactured Homes' Policy Review will be placed on exhibition.

Workforce Development Group

RESOLVED on the motion of P. Veneris, seconded S. McGrath that:

1. *The CEO open discussions with Compact about a partnership arrangement to deliver the Skills Shortage project.*
2. *The REROC Executive consider funding options for allows the Skills Shortage project to continue with project officer support.*

Water and Wastewater Technical Group – noted.

Infrastructure/Engineers Group – noted.

Build a Bridge - noted.

Riverina Spatial Information Group (RIVSIG) – noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of G. Lavelle, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that the Resource Sharing report be received.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The report was tabled by T. Donoghue

RESOLVED on the motion of T. Donoghue, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that the Resource Sharing report be received.

WASTE FORUM REPORT

The report was tabled. J. Briggs raised the following issues with Members:

Regional Waste Strategy – noted.

Staffing – noted.

Bin Trim Grant – noted.

Container Deposit Scheme: *Return and Earn* - noted.

E-Waste – noted.

Recycle Night? Recycle Right! – noted.

Regional Contracts – noted.

School Projects – noted.

Community Recycling Centres – noted.

Solar Farm Construction Waste – noted.

Safe Sharps Lite – noted.

Landfill Gas Capture Project – noted.

***No Time to Waste* Conference** – noted.

RENEW Meeting February 2023 – noted.

Coffs Harbour Waste Conference – noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. T. Quinn, seconded P. Veneris that the Waste Forum report be received.

YOUTH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NETWORK REPORT

The report was tabled. J Briggs raised the following issues with Members:

Youth and Community Development Network - noted.

Take Charge Youth Leadership Forum Evaluation – noted.

Take Charge Case Study - noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of T. Donoghue, seconded P. Veneris that the Youth and Community Development Network report be received.

ENERGY AND NET ZERO PROJECT REPORT

The Report was tabled. William Adlong spoke to the report.

Eol for Community Battery Funding – noted.

REROC Regional Energy Efficiency and Net Zero Plan – reviewing the outline of the Plan was delayed for time constraints. Members were asked to provide feedback to W. Adlong.

Energy and Innovation Conference – noted.

Federal Government's new \$100 million community Energy Upgrades Fund – noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of T. Donoghue, seconded Cr. N. Smith that the Energy and Net Zero Project report be received.

REGIONAL CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT REPORT

The Report was tabled. Matthew Dudley raised the following issues with Members:

Daft Contaminated Land Policy – noted.

Training Workshops – noted.

End of the Project – M. Dudley advised that this was likely to be his last meeting as the project was ending.

Cr Firman extended his warmest thanks to Mr Dudley for his commitment and enthusiasm for the project and for his professionalism. Mr Dudley extended his thanks to REROC and the Member Councils' staff for their support of the project.

RESOLVED on the motion of G. Baker, seconded Cr. N. Smith that the Contaminated Land Management Report be received.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Regional ARIC – T. Donoghue advised that the Member Councils currently sharing Internal Audit functions have asked that REROC look at establishing a regional ARIC. J. Briggs advised that work had commenced on this project in the JO and that REROC would be able to utilise the work undertaken to inform the project.

RESOLVED on the motion of T. Donoghue, seconded Cr. N. Smith that REROC work with the Member Councils to develop a shared regional ARIC model.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 25 August 2023 at The Rules Club, Wagga Wagga.

CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 12:45pm



Riverina Joint Organisation

Minutes

Board Meeting held

23 June, 2023

Minutes of the Riverina Joint Organisation Board Meeting held at Wagga Wagga Country Club, Plumpton Rd, Wagga Wagga on Friday 23 June 2023

The meeting opened at 9:10am

Present

Grant Baker	Bland Shire Council
Cr Brian Monaghan	Bland Shire Council
Cr David McCann OAM	Coolamon Shire Council
Tony Donoghue PSM	Coolamon Shire Council
Cr Charlie Sheahan	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Stephen McGrath	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
Cr Tony Quinn	Greater Hume Shire Council
Evelyn Arnold	Greater Hume Shire Council
Cr Neil Smith	Junee Shire Council
Cr Greg Verdon	Lockhart Shire Council
Peter Veneris	Lockhart Shire Council
Cr Rick Firman OAM	Independent Chairman
Gary Lavelle PSM	Temora Shire Council
Cr Graham Sinclair	Temora Shire Councils
Giles Butler	Dept of Regional NSW
Julie Briggs	Riverina JO
Jenny Pideski	REROC

1. Apologies

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith seconded Cr D. McCann that the apologies of Cr D. Tout, Cr T. Koschel, Cr M. Stadtmiller, A. Drenovski, J. Davis, P. Thompson, C. Templeton and P. Worsfold be accepted.

2. Move to Committee of the Whole

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith, seconded Cr G. Verdon that the Board conduct its business as a Committee of the Whole.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by the Board or staff.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr C. Sheahan seconded Cr B. Monaghan that the minutes of the 28 April 2023 Board meeting be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

5. Business Arising from Previous Board Meetings

60-Day Dispensing – Members agreed that the NSW Pharmacy Guild should be contacted re this issue to determine their stance.

6. Correspondence

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith seconded Cr B. Monaghan that the Board receive and note the correspondence.

Chairman

CEO

7. Chief Executive Officer Report

7.1 JO Funding Arrangements and Implementation Plan

JO Implementation Plan – noted.

7.2 JO Core Activities - Regional Planning

JO Capacity Building Funding Stage Two

- **Skills Shortages Project** – noted.
- **Leveraging Economic Development** – noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr B. Monaghan, seconded Cr C. Sheahan that the JO continue to retain the services of our Student Ambassador, Ms Samantha Tout until the end of 2023.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. T Quinn, seconded Cr G. Sinclair that JO continue to deliver the Capacity Building Project while the JO is in hiatus.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr G. Verdon, seconded Cr. T Quinn that the Board note the Report on the Capacity Building Funding.

Regional Water Strategy – noted.

7.3 JO Working Party Meetings

Noted.

7.4 JO Core Activities – Advocacy and Lobbying

Meeting with the New Minister for Local Government, Hon Ron Hoenig MP – noted.

Constitutional Recognitions for Sydney Water and Hunter Water – Cr. Firman advised that councils should have received an invitation from the Country Mayors' Association to virtual meetings with the Hon Rose Jackson MP, Minister for Water on 3 July and Steph Cooke the Shadow Minister for Water. The meetings will discuss Local Water Utilities.

Rate Peg Methodology Review

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr G. Sinclair, seconded Cr. D. McCann that the Board refer the matter to REROC for a response by 4 July 2023.

Emergency Services Levy – referred to REROC for action.

Senate Inquiry into the Closure of Regional Banks – noted.

By-pass of Council Planning for Large Residential Developments – noted.

7.5 JO Core Activities – Intergovernmental Co-operation

The following activities have occurred in this Core Activity:

- **Regional Leadership Executive (RLE) Group** – noted.
- **JO Executive Officer Meetings** – noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr G. Verdon, seconded Cr B. Monaghan that the Board receive the CEO's Report.

Chairman

CEO

8. JO Chairman's Report

Chief Executive Officer Position

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr B. Monaghan, seconded Cr N. Smith that Mr. Tony Donoghue fill the role of Interim CEO of the Riverina Joint Organisation.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr D. McCann, seconded Cr N. Smith that the Board request that REROC make representations to the new Local Government Minister about the role and status of Joint Organisations.

Joint JO Chairs' Forum Meeting – noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith, seconded Cr B. Monaghan that the Board receive and note the Chairman's Report.

9. Finance Report

Year to Date Financials – tabled.

Audit 2022-23 – Noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr C. Sheahan, seconded Cr B. Monaghan that the Year-to-Date Financials be received noting that there is a discrepancy, and the CEO will send the updated Financials to the Board following the meeting.

10. Governance

The Way Forward: One Organisation – noted.

Related Party Transactions – noted.

2023-24 Revenue Policy

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith, seconded Cr G. Verdon that the JO adopt the 2023-24 Revenue Policy.

11. Urgent Business without Notice

No matters of Urgent Business were considered.

12. Resolution to Move out of Committee of the Whole

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr N. Smith, seconded Cr G. Verdon that the Board move out of Committee of the Whole.

13. Next Board Meeting

The Board of the Riverina JO will next meet on Friday, 29 September 2023 via Zoom.

Meeting closed at 10.10 a.m.

Chairman

CEO

Profit & Loss [Budget Analysis]

July 2022 To June 2023

81 Johnston Street
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650ABN: 66 746 462 096
Email: jbriggs@reroc.com.au

	Budgeted	Selected Period
Income		
Member Contributions	\$174,846.40	\$174,846.40
Sundry Income	\$15,000.00	\$0.54
Total Income	\$189,846.40	\$174,846.94
Total Cost Of Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gross Profit	\$189,846.40	\$174,846.94
Expenses		
General Expenses		
Secretarial Services	\$23,529.00	\$36,000.00
PI/PL Insurance	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Travel	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
Representations	\$7,500.00	\$840.05
Meetings	\$4,000.00	\$745.68
Projects & Planning	\$18,000.00	\$3,000.00
Printing/Stationery/Postage	\$2,000.00	\$484.28
Rent	\$12,108.91	\$12,108.91
IT Maintenance/Website	\$2,000.00	\$1,413.53
Car	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Equipment consumables	\$3,000.00	\$0.17
Phone/Internet	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Audit/Accounts	\$10,000.00	\$5,722.70
Total General Expenses	\$99,637.91	\$68,815.32
Payroll Expenses		
Wages & Salaries Expenses	\$86,561.28	\$83,276.20
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$1,800.00	\$1,846.93
Superannuation Guarantee	\$9,088.93	\$8,433.60
Leave Expenses	\$2,164.03	\$0.00
Total Payroll Expenses	\$99,614.24	\$93,556.73
Total Expenses	\$199,252.15	\$162,372.05
Operating Profit	-\$9,405.75	\$12,474.89
Other Income		
CBP - Sundry Income	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Total Other Income	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Other Expenses		
Project Manager	\$0.00	\$15,136.00
Skill Shortage Events	\$0.00	\$3,704.87
Promotion & Marketing	\$0.00	\$1,220.00
Materials Development	\$0.00	\$10,253.15
CBP1 - Payroll Expenses		
CBP - Wages & Salary Expenses	\$0.00	\$21,005.68
CBP - Superannuation Guarantee	\$0.00	\$2,493.87
Total CBP1 - Payroll Expenses	\$0.00	\$23,499.55
Total Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$53,813.57
Net Profit/(Loss)	-\$9,405.75	-\$37,338.68

Balance Sheet [Budget Analysis]

June 2023

81 Johnston Street
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650ABN: 66 746 462 096
Email: jbriggs@reroc.com.au

	Budgeted	Selected Period
Assets		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
Westpac 032769 764372	\$385,275.56	\$250,826.25
Total Bank Accounts	\$385,275.56	\$250,826.25
Total Current Assets	\$376,477.08	\$250,826.25
Total Assets	\$376,477.08	\$250,826.25
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
GST Liabilities		
GST Paid	\$3,630.18	-\$6,001.66
Total GST Liabilities	\$3,130.18	-\$6,001.66
Payroll Liabilities		
PAYG Withholding Payable	\$845.00	\$3,830.00
Annual Leave Provision	\$9,712.76	\$7,734.08
Long Service Leave Provision	\$1.42	\$0.81
Other Payroll Liabilities	\$0.00	\$1,339.40
Total Payroll Liabilities	\$10,559.18	\$12,904.29
Other Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	\$316.48	\$45,817.51
Accrued Workers Compensation	\$292.08	\$201.57
Grants received in Advance	\$196,364.39	\$107,522.39
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$196,972.95	\$153,541.47
Total Current Liabilities	\$210,662.31	\$160,444.10
Non-Current Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities		
Long Service Leave Provision	\$16,380.19	\$8,139.72
Other Non-Current Liabilities		
Accrued Workers Compensation	\$337.65	\$212.12
Total Non-Current Liabilities	\$13,197.84	\$8,351.84
Total Liabilities	\$223,860.15	\$168,795.94
Net Assets	\$152,616.93	\$82,030.31
Equity		
Retained Earnings	\$108,657.32	\$119,368.99
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	-\$32,741.48	-\$37,338.68
Total Equity	\$152,617.13	\$82,030.31