

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL ON
FRIDAY 24 MAY 2013 COMMENCING AT 10:15AM**

PRESENT: N Kinsey (Chairman), A Van Lubeck, P Shinton, M Coe, I Woodcock, M. Webb, D Batten and G Peart.

Staff Members: Don Ramsland and Ian Kelly.

1. APOLOGIES: Robert Greenaway and D Schieb

13/05/31 Resolved:

That the apologies received from Clr Greenaway and Clr Schieb be received and noted and leave of absence granted.

Moved: Clr Webb

Seconded: Clr Van Lubeck

Carried

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

13/05/32 Resolved:

That the minutes of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held Coonabarabran on Wednesday 8 May 2013 be confirmed as a true and fair record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Coe

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman verbally reported that he had attended the Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee (MVWAC) Meeting at Nyngan on Tuesday 14 May, 2013.

The Meeting was addressed By Clr Ray Donald, joint President of LG NSW, who advised that weeds would remain the domain of Councils for the time being.

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MVWAC Chairperson Bryson Rees advised the act of using chemicals required that workers must be monitored for residues by means of regular blood tests. Clr Kinsey indicated that although the County used only access, diesel and roundup it remained a WH&S issue.

Clr Kinsey had raised the \$80,000 held in reserves by MVWAC. Some \$40,000 had now been allocated. It appeared that this money was left over from project officer funding and was to be used for project officer identified projects

Bogan Shire Weeds officer Peter Groves had addressed the meeting and indicated that the biggest problem he had in the Bogan Shire was getting around the Shire because of its size and the number of absentee landholders. He was proactive in advising landholders if weeds were found on their roads.

Crown Lands advised that there was a fair amount of funding available for weeds control.

13/05/32 Resolved:

That the Chairperson's verbal report be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Kinsey

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

5 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Item 5.1 Bank Reconciliation as at 20 May 2013

Recommendation: That the Statement of Bank Balances as 20 May, 2013 be received and adopted.

13/05/33 Resolved:

That the Bank Reconciliation as at 20 May 2013 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Peart

Seconded: Clr Van Lubeck

Carried

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

1. Motion to move into Confidential Session

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13/05/34 Resolved:

That at 10.40 am Council move into Confidential session and that the public be excluded from the meeting pursuant to Section 10A (2) (a) and (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis that the matters being considered are in relation to staff and/or commercial in confidence.

Moved: Clr Batten

Seconded: Clr Webb

Carried

2. Revised Quarterly Budget Review Statement – Period Ended 30 April, 2013

13/05/35 Recommendation:

That the revised Budget Review for the period ended 30 April, 2013 be received and noted, the variations to the Budget as detailed be adopted and Council's executive arrange to meet with the five constituent councils during late May/early June to make a presentation acquainting them with the need for the remedial action planned and further that Council (as soon as circumstances permit):

1. Closedown the Coonamble freight agency – estimated saving annually of \$10,000
2. Reduce staff by natural attrition (at least two positions) – estimated savings of at least \$92,350 annually

in order to rectify the adverse financial outcome being forecast for the current financial year

Moved: Clr Batten

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

3. Organisational Restructure Report

13/05/36 Recommendation:

That the General Manager's report on restructuring be received and noted and the recommendations made be actioned in conjunction with the 2013/2014 Operational Plan and Budget.

Moved: Clr Webb

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

4. Operational Plan and Budget – 2013/2014

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13/05/37 Recommendation:

That Council adopt the General Manager's recommendations in relation 2013/2014 Operational Plan and Budget namely:

1. Reducing staff to a level of six full time employees
2. That all efforts are made to deploy any staff affected within the constituent councils
3. That the General Manager and Chairperson are authorised to negotiate with LG NSW and staff unions and advise the Division of Local Government and Council's Auditors of the course of action proposed
4. That the General Manager and Chairperson pursue the possibility of interest free loans from constituent councils to fund the cost of the restructure
5. That constituent council's contribution set at \$95,000 for 2013/2014.
6. That the DPI and local CMAs be advised accordingly.
7. That the draft Operational Plan and Budget for 2013/2014 as amended above be adopted in principle and placed on public exhibition.

Moved: Clr Batten

Seconded: Clr Webb

Carried

Meeting with Minister for Primary Industries

13/05/38 Recommended:

That Council arrange to meet with the Minister for Primary Industries to advise of the action Council is taking in relation to its 2013/2014 Budget that will severely limit actions with regards the control of Hudson Pear and other new weed incursions.

Moved: Clr Kinsey

Seconded: Clr Van Lubeck

Carried

Item 5. Review of Business Activity Strategic Plan – 2013/2014 - 2022/23

Recommendation: For Council's consideration

13/05/39 Recommendation:

That Council's revised Business Strategic Plan for 2013/2014 - 2022/23 be adopted in principle and placed on public exhibition.

Moved: Clr Webb

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

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Item 6. Review of Delivery Programme - 2013/2014 – 2016/17

Recommendation: For Council's consideration

13/05/40 Recommendation:

That Council's revised Delivery Programme for 2013/14 to 2016/17 be adopted in principle and placed on public exhibition.

Moved: Clr Shinton

Seconded: Clr Peart

Carried

Item 7. Independent Local Government Review Panel

Recommendation: That Council consider the Independent Panel's April, 2013 discussion papers

13/05/41 Recommendation:

That the Chairman and General Manager draft an appropriate submission for consideration at Council's next meeting on 26 June, 2013.

Moved: Clr Webb

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

5. Motion to move out of Confidential Session

13/05/39 Resolved:

That at 12.55 pm Council move out of Confidential Session.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Webb

Carried

Adoption of Committee Recommendations

13/05/40 Resolved:

That the seven recommendations above from the Confidential Committee be adopted as resolutions of Council

Moved: Clr Webb

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

General Business

1. Delegation to Minister for Primary Industries

It was agreed that in addition to the Chairperson, the delegation to meet with Hon. Katrina Hodgkinson MP, Minister for Primary Industries be drawn from Councillors Shinton, Batten, Webb depending upon their availability and the General Manager

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 26 June, 2013 at Coonamble.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1.10 PM

Confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Council Meeting on 26 June, 2013.

CHAIRMAN

GENERAL MANAGER