



AGENDA FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, 16th March 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to clause 7 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice that the Ordinary Council Meeting of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council will be held at the **Gilgandra Shire Council** on **16th March** commencing at **10:00am** to discuss the items listed in the Agenda.

Michael Urquhart
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

AGENDA - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

- 1. OPENING OF MEETING/WELCOME**
- 2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
- 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING**

5. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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6. REPORT OF THE SENIOR BIOSECURITY OFFICER

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14. CORRESPONDENCE (ATTACHED)

- Item 14.1 Crown Reserve Management News
- Item 14.2 Macquarie Valley Weeds Committee INC
- Item 14.3 Cactus Quarterly – Summer 2019

1. OPENING OF MEETING/WELCOME

Time: _____ am

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Leave of Absence
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the leave of absence received from _____ are accepted and a leave of absence granted.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them.

In considering your interest you are reminded to include pecuniary, non-pecuniary and conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you.

Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

[illegible]

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

4.1 MINUTES OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD 2 DECEMBER 2019

Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting – 2 December 2019
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held 2 December 2019, having been circulated be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p>

Attachments:

Meeting Minutes – 2 December, 2019 – Lightning Ridge Bowling Club

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT LIGHTNING RIDGE BOWLING CLUB ON MONDAY 2 DECEMBER 2019 COMMENCING AT 10:05AM

PRESENT: Clrs D. Batten (Chairman), R. Lewis, M. Martinez, G. Peart, P. Shinton, P.Cullen, B.Fisher and I. Woodcock

ABSENT: Nil

Staff Members: G. Ingham (General Manager), A. Fletcher (Senior Weeds Officer), M.Savage (Weeds Officer), E.McGrath (Minute Secretary).

1. WELCOME: Clr Batten welcomed all councillors and staff to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES: Clrs M.Beach and A.Brewer

12/19/1 Resolved:

That apologies from Clrs M.Beach and A.Brewer be accepted and leave of absence be granted.

Moved: Clr Lewis

Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

12/19/2 Resolved:

That the previous minutes 23/09/2019, were incorrectly recorded at item 11.1- retain 2 delegates from each Council.

That the minutes of the meeting of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council, held at Warren Shire Council Chambers on Monday 23rd September 2019, having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Shinton

Seconded: Clr Martinez

Carried

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES – Nil

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Nil

Item 6.1 Reconciliation Certificates 30 September & 31 October 2019

Recommendation: That the Bank Reconciliations as at 30 September & 31 October 2019 be received and noted.

12/19/3 Resolved:

That the Bank Reconciliations as at *30 September* 2019 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Lewis

Seconded: Clr Martinez

Carried

12/19/4 Resolved:

That the Bank Reconciliations as at *31 October* 2019 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Peart

Carried

Item 6.2 Circulars received from the NSW Office of Local Government

Recommendation: That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 19-28 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

12/19/5 Resolved:

That the information contained in the Departmental circulars 19-28 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Fisher

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

Item 6.3 CMCC Work Depot Report

Recommendation: That the Council receive and note the CMCC report by the General Manager

2nd December 2019.

That the General Manager provide to Council a further report on costings to CMCC Depots before the March 2020 meeting.

That the Council give the General Manager authority to make necessary WH&S adjustments.

That the General Manager will conduct an investigation into the Coolah CMCC Depot and report back to Council.

12/19/6 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the General Managers report.

1. That the General Manager provide a further report on costings to CMCC Depots,
2. That the Council give the General Manager authority to make necessary WH&S adjustments.
3. That the General Manager provide an investigation into the Coolah Depot.

Moved: Clr Lewis

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

Item 6.4 Hudson Pear Bio-Control Facility

Recommendation: That the Council receive and note the Hudson Pear Bio-Control Facility report b
by the GM, December 2019.

The Council resolve to name the facility the Don Mackenzie Bio-Control Facility.

Council would also like to note Mat Savage's commitment and expertise in facilitating the development of the facility.

12/19/7 Resolved:

That the Council receive and note the Hudson Pear Bio-Control Facility report by the General Manager, December 2019.

That the Council resolved to name the facility the Don Mackenzie Bio-Control Facility.

Moved: Clr Fisher

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

Item 6.5 Items for brief mention or information only

Recommendation: That the issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Managers report to the December 2019 meeting be received and noted, and Council determine what action, if any, should be taken in respect of the matters listed.

12/19/08 Resolved:

That the issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager's report to the December 2019 meeting be received and noted, and Council determine what action, if any, should be taken in respect of the matters listed.

That the General Manager make contact with each Constituent Council to confirm Councillors have received Code of Conduct training.

That the General Manager in regards to mapping, will progress Option 1 – all data goes to Iconyx, and will email all Councillors before March 2020 meeting with progress.

Moved: Clr Fisher

Seconded: Clr Lewis

Carried

Item 6.6 Central West Regional Weeds Committee update

Recommendation: That the Council receive and note Clr Shinton's update on the Central West Regional Weeds Committee.

12/19/09 Resolved:

That the Council receive and note Clr Shinton's update on the Central West Regional Weeds Committee.

That the Chairman and General Manager initiate further discussion with the Warrumbungle General Manager and Mayor regarding Hudson Pear.

Moved: Clr Fisher

Seconded: Clr Peart

Carried

7. REPORT OF THE SENIOR BIOSECURITY OFFICER

Item 7.1. Senior Biosecurity Officer's Report

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the Senior Biosecurity Officer's Report, specifically a presentation by Andrea Fletcher on Don Mackenzie passing, Hudson Pear Bio-Control facility, Sticky Nightshade, Tiger Pear, Madeira vine and mapping issues.

09/19/10 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Senior Biosecurity Officer's Report.

Moved: Clr Woodcock

Seconded: Clr Martinez

Carried

MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 16th March 2020 10am, at Gilgandra Shire Council.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 11.32 am

To be confirmed as a true and accurate record at the next Council Meeting.

CHAIRMAN

DATE

GENERAL MANAGER

DATE

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS-

ITEM 5.1 CASH AND INVESTMENT REPORTS FOR 31 DECEMBER 2019, 31 JANUARY 2020 AND 28 FEBRUARY 2020

REPORTING SECTION: Corporate Services
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart – Acting General Manager
FILE NUMBER: 09/1460

Summary:

This report provides a summary and analysis of Council's cash and investments for the period ending 31st December 2019, 31st January and 29th February 2020.

Background:

The investment portfolio consists of bank accounts and fixed rate interest bearing deposits. The portfolio is regularly reviewed in order to maximise investment performance and minimise risk. Council's investment portfolio is not subject to share market volatility.

Comparisons are regularly made between existing investments with available products that are not part of Council's portfolio, but that meet Council's policy guidelines.

All investments at 31st December 2019, 31st January and 29th February 2020 are compliant with the Relevant Reference Documents and Policies listed later in this report.

Current Position:

Council at 29th February 2020 held a total of \$1,113,278.59 in on-call and interest bearing deposits with financial institutions within Australia. All investments are held with approved deposit taking institutions with a short term rating A-2(A2)/BBB or higher. Council does not have any exposure to unrated institutions.

31st December 2019

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
PART472250081929 ELE Reserve	30/10/2018	111,876.61	CBA	2.30	18 months	30/04/2020
PART 472250081929 Plant	30/10/2018	9,000.00	CBA	2.30	18 months	30/04/2020
General Fund Bank Account Balance	31/12/2019	281,529.32	CBA			N/A
TOTAL		\$402,405.93				

31st January 2020

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
PART472250081929 ELE Reserve	30/10/2018	111,876.61	CBA	2.30	18 months	30/04/2020
PART 472250081929 Plant	30/10/2018	9,000.00	CBA	2.30	18 months	30/04/2020
General Fund Bank Account Balance	31/01/2020	594,628.01	CBA			N/A
TOTAL		\$715,504.62				

29th February 2020

Investment Number	Date invested	Amount \$	Lodged With	Rate % per annum	Term	Due Date
PART 472250081929 ELE Reserve	30/10/2018	111,876.61	CBA	2.30	18 months	30/04/2020
PART 472250081929 Plant	30/10/2018	9,000.00	CBA	2.30	18 months	30/04/2020
General Fund Bank Account Balance	29/02/2020	992,401,.98	CBA			N/A
TOTAL		\$1,113,278.59				

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Local Government Act (NSW), 1993
 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
 Ministerial Investment Order 5th January 2016
 Investment Policy (Revised and adopted in June 2019)

Governance issues:

Nil

Environmental issues:

Nil

Financial Implications:

As per report

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Nil

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Constituent Councils
Residents of Constituent Councils
Financial Institutions

Conclusion:

As at 29th February 2020, Council's available cash and invested funds totalled \$1,113,278.59. The Acting General Manager shall in the coming days place a further short investment with a financial institution.

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

1. I hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, the *Investment Order (of the Minister) 5th January 2016* and Council's Investments Policy.
2. I hereby certify that Council's cash book and ledger have been reconciled to the bank statement as at 31st December 2019, 31st January 2020 and 29th February 2020.

Michael J Urquhart

Acting General Manager – Responsible Accounting Officer

Cash and Investment Report as at 31st December 2019, 31st January 2020 and 29th February 2020
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That the Investment report for the three (3) months 31st December 2019, 31st January 2020 and 29th February 2020 be received and noted.</p> <p>Moved: Seconded:</p>

ITEM 5.2 CIRCULARS RECEIVED FROM THE NSW OFFICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart - Acting General Manager
FILE NUMBER:

Summary:

Copies of circulars received from the Local Government Office Department of Premier and Cabinet are attached for Councillors information. Circulars are emailed to Councillors when published from LGNSW.

Background:

The General Manager has flagged the following circulars as requiring the particular attention of Councillors:

- **19-29 2019-20 Draft Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (Update 28)**
- **19-31 amendments to the Electoral Provisions of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005**
- **20-02 Exemption for activities under Part 3 of the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)**

Governance Issues:

All circulars have Governance implications. Where necessary the subject of particular circulars will be raised in following reports.

Stakeholders:

Councillors and Castlereagh Macquarie County Council staff

Financial Implications:

Obviously some circulars will have a financial impact and where this is the case, Councillors particular attention will be drawn to them.

Conclusion:

Council will need to comply with the various requirements set out in the circulars.

Circulars Received From the NSW Office of Local Government

Recommendation:

That the information contained in the following Departmental circulars 19-29, 19-31 & 20-02 from the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet be received and noted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

ITEM 5.3 ORGANISATIONAL ACTION PLAN REVIEW – AUGUST 2019

REPORTING SECTION: General Manager
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart – Acting General Manager
FILE NUMBER:

Summary:

To review the Organisational Action Plan.

Background:

In March, 2014 Council adopted a twelve point plan as part of the proposed organisational restructure of the County Council.

With the close of the 2016/17 financial year all of those measures had been implemented with the finalisation of the appointment of a new Senior Weeds Officer. .

Current Position:

It was also a requirement that all the elements of the IP&R supporting legislation be reviewed within twelve months of the September, 2016 quadrennial elections and ensure they address the requirements of the Biosecurity Act 2015.

During August, 2016 Council commenced putting a new digital information system in place to meet the requirements of the new Biosecurity Information System (BIS) and be able to provide data for the new state-wide data base.

At its meeting on 27 June, 2016 Council adopted a thirty-point Organisational Action Plan for 2016/17 and this was updated and progressively implemented during both 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19. It is now planned to continue to update and implement that plan progressively throughout 2019/20 and to also review it at each meeting.

Council at its June, 2017 meeting resolved to meet only once a quarter - in March rather than February and April, June, August and November rather than October and December, thus being able to reduce the number of meetings being held each year from five down to four.

Council also resolved to write to the OLG seeking advice on reducing the number of delegates from ten down to five and the possibility of operating under a Section 355 (LGA) committee type structure. Whilst it will be possible to reduce delegate numbers with the concurrence of all Constituent Councils, the OLG supports continuing with the current County Council structure.

This was also the underlying feeling at the June, 2019 when considering the resignation of one of the Coonamble Shire delegates. Council requested that a report be prepared for its next meeting to again canvass this issue.

This Organisational Action Plan Report to the March 2020, will be the third of these reviews for 2019/20 and progress in respect of the follow elements has now been identified:

Relevant Reference Documents:

Council's Operational Plan and Budget for 2019/20, December, 2019/20 QBRs statements and Long Term Financial Plan

- **Business Activity Strategic Plan Link:**
 - The issues identified during the preparation of the Updated Draft Budget for 2019/20 and supporting documentation
- **Delivery Plan Link:**
 - The issues identified during the preparation of the 2019/20 Operational Plan and Budget are linked back to Council's 2018/22 Delivery Plan and Business Activity Strategy
- **Operational Plan/Budget Link:**
 - The issues identified in Council's 2018/22 Delivery Plan and Business Activity Strategy are directly linked to the 2019/20 Operational Plan and Budget provisions

Stakeholders:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
Council Staff
Constituent Councils
Local residents and landholders

Governance Issues:

The aim of this report is to acquaint Councillors with the progress being made in respect of the many and varied tasks that need to be addressed over each twelve month period. As necessary, over the next twelve months, additional items may be added to the action plan.

Environmental Issues:

Not applicable

Financial Implications:

Council to continue its monitoring of performance both financially and operationally in terms of service delivery to its communities. With limited income streams the County Council must be responsive to changes in grant allocation or expenditure trends that may be detrimental to its financial capacity and on-going sustainability.

Legal Issues:

Council will need to be mindful of any changes in local government legislation that may have serious impacts into the future. This particularly relates to changes in the Biosecurity Legislation that became effective from 1 July, 2017 and are still in the implementation phase.

Options:

Council to keep abreast of changes in all facets of operations, monitor progress of action plan to reduce exposure of future risks to the organisation.

Conclusion:

It is very prudent of the County Council to review its business operations from a financial and organisational perspective, to ensure sustainability to maximise the long term benefits to constituent Council's and their communities.

The organisational action plan is testimony to sustainability planning, and Council should continue to review and report on the progress of this plan.

Organisational Action Plan – August 2019

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Acting General Manager's report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the revised Organisational Action Plan (March 2020) and endorse the action taken so far.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

Updated Organisational Action Plan

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

ORGANISATIONAL ACTION PLAN – 2019/2020

September

1. Finalisation of 2018/19 Audit requirements with Auditor General's Office and new Sydney based contract auditors - *ongoing*
2. Be proactive in the local government reform process by preparing any necessary submissions - *completed*
Finalise annual statements of account for 2018/19 – *Finalised by WSC staff*
3. Review and update its WH&S policies and procedures - *ongoing*
4. Review and negotiate Council's Insurances for 2019/20 - *completed*
5. Update Local Control Plans – Priority Weeds - *ongoing*
6. Prepare 2019/20 WAP 1520 returns - *completed*
7. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements - *ongoing*
8. Review Councillors' remuneration - *completed*
9. Review its salary system, work practices and costing documentation – *On-going*

November (formerly October/December)

10. Report on the outcomes achieved through the Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation to Council from its Business Activity Strategy and supporting legislation.
11. All the elements of the IP&R supporting legislation be reviewed as required to ensure they address the current requirements.
12. Update all policies and procedures – *On-going*
13. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements. *Completed*
14. Follow up review of Councillor Numbers and Committee Structure.- *On-going*
15. Auditor's presentation to 2 December, 2019 meeting and annual statements tabled for adoption. *Completed*
16. Re-negotiate property leases with Constituent Council's where appropriate.
17. Conduct both WH&S and Award Consultative Committee meetings. *On-going*
18. Provide the support for secretariat for the Hudson pear Taskforce if required. CMCC to provide services.
19. Run a series of weeds eradication programmes based on seasonal conditions. *On-going*.
20. Improve communication with state agencies and other stakeholders - *ongoing*
21. Review Council Staffing Structure. *Complete*.
22. Prepare annual report for 2018/19. *Complete*.
23. Discuss Business/Disaster Recovery Plan (AG) with new auditors. Scheduled for May 2020.
24. Discuss IT Security Policy (AG) with new auditors. Scheduled for May 2020.

March (formerly February/April)

25. Provide regular feedback to Constituent Council's through the distribution of agendas and minutes. *On-going*.
26. Maintain an up to date website and records system. In progress new consultant to be engaged.
27. Prepare Quarterly Budget Review Statements. To be presented March 2020.
28. Research grant funding opportunities. *On-going*.

April

29. Monitor insurance cover and ensure all risks are reasonably addressed. Meeting scheduled with insurance broker early April.
30. Update Draft Budget for 2020/21 and supporting documentation. To commence March.
31. Advertise draft Operational Plan and budget. After meeting.
32. Community consultation copies sent to constituent councils for comment.

June

33. Commence annual statement preparation.
34. Review ELE reserves.
35. Finalisation of 2020/21 Audit requirements with Auditor General's Office and contract auditors.
36. Canvassing Constituent Council's with regards to reduction of delegate numbers.
37. Contractual arrangements in respect of Hudson pear bio-agent breeding facilities at Lightning Ridge. Complete.
38. Transfer to reserves in 2019/20 for ongoing projects.
39. Reviewing direct access to Land Registry Services property data for all five constituent councils

5.4 QUARTERLEY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT – DECEMBER 2019

REPORTING SECTION: Corporate Services
AUTHOR: Michael Urquhart – Acting General Manager
FILE NUMBER:

Summary:

The General Manager reports to Council on the status of the December 2019 Quarterly Budget Review (QBR) Statement. The report outlines the second quarter operations against the adopted 2019/2020 budget estimates, with income and expenditure variations made because of actual differences or known trends.

Background:

The Quarterly Budget Review document is a statutory requirement under the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Part 9, Division 3, Section 203 and is an essential aspect of Council's financial management. A budget review is to be prepared and submitted to Council not later than two months after the end of each quarter.

Current Position:

The current position is detailed in the attached Quarter 2 (period ending 31st December 2019) Quarterly Budget Review Statement report.

Generally the majority of income and expenditure estimates for 2019/2020 are on track, however there is a large number of major variations brought to account in the attached report because of current expenditure trends, new grant projects, rollover projects from 2019/2020 or the availability of known actual figures.

Council's General Fund operations after capital expenditures and transfers to and from reserves has recorded a quarterly cash deficit of \$37,773 which increases the forecast end of year result to a cash deficit of \$74,336. After bringing to account roll over grants and reserve funds to balance termination payments, the deficit this quarter essentially relates to the redundancy payment.

The major variations for the December 2019 quarter are listed below.

Description	Explanation	Saving	Expense
Roll over grants 18-19	Rollover grants brought to account and to offset property inspections	69,000	69,000
Private works	Expense and income brought to account	37,367	16,500
Additional support	Council approved additional administrative support	0	21,821
Redundancy	Approved redundancy payment	0	36,397
Provision ELE retirement	It is requested Council approve an additional expense for ELE termination payments, funded by reserve transfer	12,495	12,495
Fleet renewal	Additional net expense for fleet change	10,999	12,060
HP Bio control grant and capital expense	Bringing to account the balance of funds from grant to offset capital expense	172,000	172,000
Other variations	Net of all other variations for the quarter	639	

	Totals of adjustments	302,500	340,273
	Net adjustment for quarter		(\$37,773)

Relevant Reference Documents/Policies:

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Governance issues:

The Quarterly Budget Review Statement is a key document for Council in monitoring the progress of the Annual Budget and more broadly its achievement of the objectives within the Strategic Plan.

Financial Implications:

The Quarterly Budget Review details Councils current financial projections for the 2019/2020 fiscal year as at the quarter ending 31st December 2019.

Alternative Solutions/Options:

Not Applicable

Conclusion:

The QBRS as at 31st December 2019 provides council with information relating to the status of the budget after six (6) months of operation. The movement of rollover grants and their related expenditure and requests for additional funds this financial year, has impacted upon the result, with a revised general fund cash deficit of \$74,336.

Quarterly budget review statement 2019/2020

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the attached Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 31st December 2019 as tabled.

Moved:

Seconded:

Attachments:

December 2019. Quarterly Budget Review Statement

Refer to Ordinary Attachment Document

6. REPORT OF THE SENIOR BIOSECURITY OFFICER

ITEM 6.1 SENIOR BIOSECURITY OFFICERS REPORT

REPORTING SECTION: Andrea Fletcher
AUTHOR: Andrea Fletcher- Senior Biosecurity Officer
FILE NUMBER:

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council Senior Bio Security Weeds Officer Quarterly Report March 2020.

The position for a Bio security officer within Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has been filled. There were 4 applicants in total with 3 interviewed. All applicants specified location in the Walgett Shire. The successful applicant David Ryan will commence duties 16th March 2020 and reside in Lightning Ridge. David has worked in local government for 30 years.

Lightning Ridge Bio Control facility update – The 10 x 27 meter facility is now complete and expected to produce 100,000 infected segments per year. Unfortunately the official opening scheduled February 6 had to be cancelled due to the availability of the minister. Date to be confirmed for opening. The facility has the capacity to hold 840 tubs and is currently stocked with 700 tubs of Hudson Pear cladodes. The Hudson Pear volunteer group assisted CMCC with the collection. Their contribution was much appreciated.

The Californica Va parker bio type lineage reared in our greenhouse and released into field has demonstrated much success with spread and plant deaths. One particular area to demonstrate Grawin Airport. A release was made on 4 plants in November 2018 and has now infected 5 ha. Another area to mention is Quanda 5 ways in the Coonamble shire. A bio release was conducted on the site during the Central West Hudson Pear Taskforce 28th November, 2018. January 2020 a follow up inspection was conducted and reported the infected cladodes alive and adapted to plants.

The green house is currently being used to rear bio control for Harrisia (Martini).

Subcontract with DPI is \$60,000 per year for 3 years. My suggestion to DPI was welcomed to instead of employing a staff member 3 days per week as previously proposed, CMCC will deliver required tasks for the facility and invoice DPI as with any ongoing costs for the facility. I welcome this topic for discussion with Councillors.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council weed control contracts; COMPLETED.

November / December 2018 - Lightning Ridge Opal Reserve Hudson Pear Control, 2500 ha. Stonies Road, 3 mile, Weetalabah, Gravel extraction, Corcoran Lake reserve, Kangaroo Hill, Hidden Valley road tracks, Bill O'Brian Way, Grawin tip and Golf Course. Green Car Door control Jumping Cholla (*Cylindropuntia prolifera*)

December 2018 – Cumborah Reserve (Crown Land) 124 Ha in total. 100 ha chemical control and 24 ha bio control.

Gilgandra Shire - Landmark, Airport, Central Machines and Engines.

Current contracts;

Gilgandra Shire - Crown Land Contract, Blue Heliotrope

Warrumbungle Shire - Private works, blackberry

-Private works, tree line

Walgett Shire – Crown Land Contract

New Weed Incursions;

Gilgandra Shire – Hudson Pear, Oxley Highway Collie 2 metres from roadside (148.372539 / -31.662603) 1 plant

Gilgandra Shire – Harrisia (Martini) Newell Highway 1 plant setting seed (148.636257 / -31.799307)

Walgett Shire – Hudson Pear Colerose Road West Pilliga Come By Chance (148.58255 / -30.50959)

Warrumbungle Shire – new Hudson Pear plant found 27th February 2020 at previous incursion site 1st September, 2019 16km south Coonabarabran Newell Highway (149.300003 / -31.33615)

Overall weed concern since receiving much welcomed rain - Blue Heliotrope and African Box Thorn.

WAP allocations year 5 (2019/20)

North West Walgett Shire \$112,110.00

Central West- Warrumbungle, Gilgandra, Warren & Coonamble Shires \$197,700.06

WAP 2020/25 is currently being reviewed.

Follow up Actions CMCC depots.

Warren - supply and installation of solar power received and waiting to receive a second quote , external shower / eye wash delivered and in process of installing along with guttering to water tank.

Gilgandra, Walgett & Warrumbungle – chemical spill control pallets received.

Coonamble storage unit – Since our last board meeting all old CMCC records have been removed and now stored at the Walgett depo, this has eliminated a cost to CMCC of \$50 per week which has been debited for the past 8 years. There is another possible depo site at 21-23 Railway Street Coonamble.

Relocation of demountable building from Coolah to Lightning Ridge, to discuss.

Check feed in Fodder advertisements recently published in the Warrumbungle, Gilgandra, Coonamble, Warren and Walgett newspapers.

(Photos will be presented through power point presentation at meeting)

Senior Biosecurity Officers Report
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>That Council receive and note the Senior Biosecurity Officers March 2020 report.</p> <p>Moved:</p> <p>Seconded:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>