

Minutes

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

ALBY SCHULTZ MEETING CENTRE, COOTAMUNDRA

6:00PM, TUESDAY 10th December, 2024

Administration Centres: 1300 459 689

**MINUTES OF COOTAMUNDRA-GUNDAGAI REGIONAL COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE ALBY SCHULTZ MEETING CENTRE, COOTAMUNDRA
ON TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2024 AT 6:00PM**

PRESENT: Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor), Cr Rosalind Wight (Deputy Mayor), Cr Logan Collins, Cr Les Cooper, Cr David Graham, Cr Gil Kelly, Cr Penny Nicholson, Cr Ethan Ryan, Cr Danyal Syed

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve McGrath (Interim General Manager), Matt Stubbs (Deputy General Manager - Operations), Barry Paull (Deputy General Manager - CCD), Linda Wiles (Manager Business), Zac Mahon (Manager Finance), Michael Mason (Interim Manager Sustainable Development), Greg Ewings (Acting Manager Regional Services Gundagai), (Interim Manager Engineering Cootamundra), Teresa Breslin (Executive Assistant)

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chairperson acknowledged the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land at which the meeting was held and paid his respects to Elders, both past and present, of the Wiradjuri Nation and extended that respect to other Aboriginal people who were present.

2 OPEN FORUM

Nil

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 APOLOGIES

Nil

3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION 235/2024

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 26 November 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

6 MAYORAL MINUTES**6.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT****RESOLUTION 236/2024**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

The information in the Councillor Engagements Mayoral Minute be received and noted.

CARRIED

6.2 MAYORAL MINUTE - RECONNECTING RIVER COUNTRY PROGRAM**RESOLUTION 237/2024**

Moved: Cr Abb McAlister

That Council:

- 1. Write to NSW Minister for Water, Housing and Homelessness the Hon Rose Jackson MLC, and to the Federal Minister for Environment and Water the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, requesting:**
 - a. An immediate halt in the Reconnecting Rivers Country Program.**
 - b. Stakeholders, such as landholder representative groups and Councils, are consulted at each stage of the Reconnecting Rivers Country business case and Landholder Negotiation Scheme development and are included in any review of the draft prior to submission to the Australian Government and adoption.**
 - c. Legal questions about easement proposals be clarified as a matter of urgency, particularly in relation to a guarantee that an application to the court or legislative action will not be made to change the terms of the easements in perpetuity.**
 - d. Landholder property access be guaranteed in relation to any infrastructure changes associated with the Reconnecting Rivers Country program, especially road raising and bridge building.**
- 2. Request from NSW Minister for Water, Housing and Homelessness the Hon Rose Jackson MLC**
 - a. an audit of the LNS consultation process including Number of Landholders with reference dates and method Murrumbidgee River adjoining block landholders that have been confirmed directly consulted.**
 - b. an audit of the DPIE consultation process including Number of Councils with reference dates and method that have been directly consulted regarding the LNS program. Including the position held of the council representative.**
- 3. Write to all other REROC Councils and any other Councils located on the Murrumbidgee River, seeking feedback and support for our advocacy in this matter.**
- 4. Write to the NSW Shadow Minister for Water Steph Cooke MP, requesting an overview of her knowledge and position on this issue and seek her support in advocating for ongoing consultation for the remainder of the program.**
- 5. Demand an unredacted copy of the Business Case which is due to the Hon Rose Jackson MLC on or before the 28th February 2025 be provided to council.**

6. Request an external and independent from Government investigation from the State & Federal productivity commissioners, Peter Achterstraat AM FAICD(Life) & Danielle Wood (Chair) respectively & supply a report on the effects of the Reconnecting River Country program to Farmers and the wider community.
7. Request an external and independent from Government investigation from Senator the Hon Don Farrell minister for Trade & Tourism a report on the effects of the Reconnecting River Country program to Riverina Trade & Tourism.
8. Request an external and independent from Government investigation from the Hon Ryan Park MP minister for Health a report on the effects of the Reconnecting River Country program to health in the Riverina.

CARRIED

7 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

8 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

8.1 GENERAL MANAGER OFFICE

8.1.1 RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (REROC) MEETING MINUTES

RESOLUTION 238/2024

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

The Minutes of the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) Board Meeting and Annual General Meeting held on 25 October 2024, attached to the report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

Councillor Graham requested that Council prepare and send a letter of thanks to Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) regarding the induction training provided, and also a letter of thanks to Julie Briggs.

8.2 BUSINESS

8.2.1 OLD MILL GUNDAGAI REDEVELOPMENT - MASTERPLAN AND BUSINESS CASE

RESOLUTION 239/2024

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

Council support Option Two, Immersive Storytelling Experience, to be developed into a Business Case for future funding opportunities for the Old Mill Gundagai.

CARRIED

8.2.2 SECTION 355 COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT MANUAL AMENDMENT**RESOLUTION 240/2024**

Moved: Cr Gil Kelly

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

Council endorses the amended Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council Section 355 Committee Management Manual noting that the document will be subject to consultation with the Committees and presented for final adoption by Council should substantial adjustments be required.

CARRIED

8.2.3 TABLING OF PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS - NEW DESIGNATED PERSON**RESOLUTION 241/2024**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr David Graham

The tabling of a pecuniary interest returns from Councillors and new designated person be noted.

CARRIED

8.2.4 COOTAMUNDRA HERITAGE CENTRE MANAGEMENT S.355 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**RESOLUTION 242/2024**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

The Minutes of the Cootamundra Heritage Centre Management s.355 Committee Meeting held 4 November 2024, attached to the report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.2.5 INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY**RESOLUTION 243/2024**

Moved: Cr Danyal Syed

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

The Draft Information Security Policy be deferred to a later Council Meeting after further review and collaboration has occurred.

CARRIED

8.2.1 AUSTRALIA DAY 2025**RESOLUTION 244/2024**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

1. **Information on Australia Day Awards 2025 be received and noted.**
2. **Council acknowledge the overview of the Australia Day Award nominations at its 10 December workshop and also acknowledge the nominated award recipients for the 2025 Australia Day Ceremonies.**
3. **The submission of the Australia Day 2025 Community Grant be noted.**
4. **Awards be presented in three categories being Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Sportsperson / Sports Achievement.**

CARRIED

8.3 FINANCE**8.3.1 FINANCE UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2024****RESOLUTION 245/2024**

Moved: Cr Danyal Syed

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

The Finance Update report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.3.2 RESTRICTED CASH RECONCILIATION - NOVEMBER 2024**RESOLUTION 246/2024**

Moved: Cr Les Cooper

Seconded: Cr Logan Collins

The Restricted Cash Reconciliation report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.3.3 INVESTMENT REPORT - NOVEMBER 2024**RESOLUTION 247/2024**

Moved: Cr Rosalind Wight

Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

The report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 30th November 2024, be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.3.4 LODGEMENT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

RESOLUTION 248/2024

Moved: Cr David Graham
 Seconded: Cr Danyal Syed

1. **The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer be delegated to sign the Statements by Council and Management for the 2024 General Purpose Financial Statements and 2024 Special Purpose Financial Statements for Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council.**
2. **The General Manager be authorised to issue the 2024 Financial Statements upon receipt of the auditor’s report.**

CARRIED

8.4 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

8.4.1 DA 2024/88 - 89 MACKAY STREET, COOTAMUNDRA

RESOLUTION 249/2024

Moved: Cr David Graham
 Seconded: Cr Gil Kelly

That Council resolve to approve the development application subject to conditions 1 – 51 within the Notice of Determination (Attachment 2).

- **Application No.:** DA 2024/88
- **Property:** Lot: 89 DP: 1041614
89 Mackay Street COOTAMUNDRA
- **Development:** Development for the purpose of demolition of existing outbuildings, alterations and addition to an existing dwelling house and erection of an ancillary garage and retaining walls.

VOTING RECORD	
FOR RESOLUTION	AGAINST RESOLUTION
Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor) Cr Rosalind Wight Cr Logan Collins Cr Les Cooper Cr David Graham Cr Gil Kelly Cr Penny Nicholson Cr Ethan Ryan Cr Danyal Syed	Nil
ABSENT	DECLARED INTEREST

Nil	Nil
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CARRIED

8.5 ENGINEERING COOTAMUNDRA

8.5.1 COOTAMUNDRA ENGINEERING REPORT - DECEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION 250/2024

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

The Cootamundra Engineering Report for the month of December 2024 be noted.

CARRIED

8.6 ENGINEERING GUNDAGAI

8.6.1 GUNDAGAI ENGINEERING REPORT - DECEMBER 2024

RESOLUTION 251/2024

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

The Gundagai Engineering Report for the month of December 2024 be noted.

CARRIED

8.7 REGIONAL SERVICES GUNDAGAI

8.7.1 GUNDAGAI LONG STAY RV PARK- CROWN LAND MANAGEMENT

RESOLUTION 252/2024

Moved: Cr Penny Nicholson

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

That Council request formal approval and support from Local Land Services (LLS) for Council to make application to Crown Lands for the Change of Purpose or Acquisition of lot 7010, DP1028790 being the current Travelling Stock Reserve on which the Gundagai Long Stay RV Park off Pope Street is situated.

CARRIED

8.7.2 GUNDAGAI REGIONAL SERVICES WORKS REPORT**RESOLUTION 253/2024**

Moved: Cr David Graham

Seconded: Cr Penny Nicholson

The Gundagai Regional Services Department, Monthly works report be received and noted.

CARRIED

8.8 REGIONAL SERVICES COOTAMUNDRA**8.8.1 REGIONAL SERVICES - COOTAMUNDRA DIVISIONAL MONTHLY REPORT TO COUNCIL****RESOLUTION 254/2024**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

The Regional Services Cootamundra Department Monthly Works Report be received and noted.

CARRIED

9 MOTION OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

10 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**11.1 CLOSED COUNCIL REPORT****RESOLUTION 255/2024**

Moved: Cr Logan Collins

Seconded: Cr Rosalind Wight

- 1. Item 11.2 be considered in closed Council at which the press and public are excluded in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and related public interest reasons detailed.**
- 2. In accordance with section 11 (2) and (3) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the reports, correspondence and other documentation relating to Item 11.2 be withheld from the press and public.**

CARRIED

RESUMPTION OF OPEN COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION 256/2024

Moved: Cr Les Cooper
 Seconded: Cr Ethan Ryan

The Open Council meeting resume at 6:54pm.

CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Note: The Chairperson announced the resolutions made in Closed Council.

11.2 REQUEST FOR LAND OWNERS CONSENT - TUMBLONG LANDFILL

RESOLUTION 257/2024

Moved: Cr David Graham
 Seconded: Cr Les Cooper

1. That Council grant landowner’s consent to the operator of the existing waste management facility, allowing the lodgement of a Development Application (DA) or a Section 4.55(2) application to modify the existing development consent (DA 2019/143), as appropriate, for the proposed changes to the waste management facility located on Council owned land Lot 7004, DP 1028797 and Lot 7003, DP 1149008, in accordance with the request for owner consent and scope of proposal provided on 21 November 2024.
2. That Council enter into discussions with MH Earthmoving Pty Ltd regarding changes to the existing lease agreement. No change to the agreement shall be implemented unless there has been a positive determination of the relevant development consent.

VOTING RECORD	
FOR RESOLUTION	AGAINST RESOLUTION
Cr Abb McAlister (Mayor) Cr Rosalind Wight Cr Logan Collins Cr Les Cooper Cr David Graham Cr Gil Kelly Cr Penny Nicholson Cr Ethan Ryan Cr Danyal Syed	Nil
ABSENT	DECLARED INTEREST
Nil	Nil

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 6:57pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 January 2025.

CHAIRPERSON

GENERAL MANAGER