

MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at COOLAMON SHIRE COUNCIL on THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2007 starting at 10.42am.

PRESENT

Cr. D. Bolte (Chair), Cr. C. Manchester, Cr. P. Speirs, Cr. J. Macaulay, Cr. D. Palmer, Cr. J. McGregor, Cr. J. O'Brien and Cr. J Edwards.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. P. Wearne, General Manager, Mr. P. Dwyer, Group Leader - Administration, Mr. N. Nasser, Group Leader - Production and Distribution and Mr. B. West - Group Leader – Engineering,

A. APOLOGIES

NIL

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2006.

- 07/001 The minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2006 having been circulated and read by the Members, were confirmed on the motion of Crs Manchester and O'Brien with the correction on page 10 with replacement of the word 'was' with 'will be' with the sentence now reading, "Cr. Palmer sought and will be provided with information regarding the Jugiong figures on Production and Consumption."

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

D. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Riverina Theatre Company Inviting Goldenfields to be a sponsor of Drought Relief Program for 2007

General Manager's Note: RTC were advised that their request falls outside the parameters of Council's Donations Policy however; Mr Smalley has written directly to councillors (*blue pages*) and provided information on the various levels of sponsorship.

Recommendation

That in accordance with Council's Donations Policy, the request be denied.

- 07/002 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Speirs that in accordance with Council's Donations Policy, the request be denied.

E. FINANCIAL REPORT (P. Dwyer)

1. CHEQUE WARRANTS – DECEMBER 2006 AND BANK RECONCILIATION

Warrant

Fund	Voucher Numbers	\$
Water	16910 – 16959 Autopays 600225-600226 70774 – 70805	\$830,698.75

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance	\$ -329,581.05
Deposits	\$1,327,564.63
	<u>\$997,983.58</u>
Withdrawals	\$830,698.75
Balance as at 31 December 2006	<u><u>\$167,284.83</u></u>

2. CHEQUE WARRANTS – JANUARY 2007 AND BANK RECONCILIATION

Warrant

Fund	Voucher Numbers	\$
Water	16960 – 17095 Autopays 600227-600229 70806 – 70862	\$2,335,470.71

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance	\$ 167,284.83
Deposits	\$2,637,135.63
	<u>\$2,804,420.46</u>
Withdrawals	\$2,355,470.71
Balance as at 31 January 2007	<u><u>\$448,949.75</u></u>

3. REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS

Listed below are Council's Investments as at 31 December 2006

Financial Institution	Face Value	Annualised Interest Rate %
NSW Treasury – Cash Facility	\$6,494,283.02	6.45
Local Govt Financial Services – Cash	\$14,088,788.52	6.38
Commonwealth Bank – At Call	\$20,308.87	6.20
CBA Term Deposit due 04.01.07	\$500,000.00	6.06
LGFS Term Deposit due 8.02.07-190260	\$500,000.00	6.08
LGFS Term Deposit due 21.3.07-189365	\$500,000.00	5.75
LGFS Term Deposit due 26.4.07-189657	\$700,000.00	6.02
LGFS Term Deposit due 04.5.07-189919	\$500,000.00	6.20
CBA Term Deposit due 01.06.07	\$500,000.00	6.32
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.8.07-191269	\$500,000.00	6.48
LGFS Term Deposit due 6.12.07-192778	\$500,000.00	6.60
TOTAL:	\$24,803,380.41	

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 2007

Listed below are Council's Investments as at 31 January 2007

Financial Institution	Face Value	Annualised Interest Rate %
NSW Treasury – Cash Facility	\$6,529,833.49	6.45
Local Govt Financial Services – Cash	\$14,167,584.65	6.59
Commonwealth Bank – At Call	\$825,043.11	6.20
LGFS Term Deposit due 8.02.07-190260	\$500,000.00	6.08
LGFS Term Deposit due 21.3.07-189365	\$500,000.00	5.75
LGFS Term Deposit due 26.4.07-189657	\$700,000.00	6.02
LGFS Term Deposit due 04.5.07-189919	\$500,000.00	6.20
CBA Term Deposit due 01.06.07	\$500,000.00	6.32
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.8.07-191269	\$500,000.00	6.48
LGFS Term Deposit due 6.12.07-192778	\$500,000.00	6.60
TOTAL:	\$25,222,461.25	

I hereby certify that the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and Council's investment policy.

Recommendation

That the information in respect of items E1 to E3 be noted.

07/003 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Edwards and O'Brien that the information in respect of items E1 to E3 be noted.

4. OUTSTANDING DEBTORS

The balances outstanding as at 5 February 2007 were:

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	89,149	6,819	217,259	313,227
Consumption Charges	81,884	35,035	673,228	790,147
Deferred headworks			65,100	65,100
TOTAL:	171,033	41,854	955,587	1,168,474
Overpayments				107,989

The balances outstanding as at 3 January 2007 were:

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	35,727	6,185	76,378	118,290
Consumption Charges	116,621	34,245	166,675	317,541
Deferred headworks			65,100	65,100
TOTAL:	152,348	40,430	308,153	500,931
Overpayments				107,989

The balances outstanding as at 4 December 2006 were:

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	41,845	6,409	139,100	187,354
Consumption Charges	125,495	34,620	329,788	489,903
Deferred headworks			65,100	65,100

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TOTAL:	167,340	41,029	533,988	742,357
Overpayments				98,629

Recommendation

That the report on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

07/004 RESOLVED on the motion of Manchester and Palmer that the report on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

5. QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 31 DECEMBER 2006

The Quarterly Budget Review for the period ending 31 December 2006 is attached (yellow pages) for the consideration of Council.

Details of the main variations are as follows:

Revenue

- User Charges – retail sales increased by \$676,000 – increased sales to December as a result of the continued drought.
- Interest on Investments – increased by \$150,000 due to extra funds being invested with the anticipated drawn down for capital works not being as great as originally budgeted. Also interest rates are currently higher than budgeted.
- Private Works – increased by \$3,000 – revised estimate.
- Grant Income – increased by \$33,200 – not in original budget.

Operating revenue increase by \$862,200

Expenditure

- Administration – net savings of \$66,200 resulting from: Engineers wages (charged to works - -\$100,000), workers comp premium (-\$13,000), members fees (+\$19,800), rent on old building (+\$15,000) and payroll tax (+\$12,000).
- Community Support – decreased by \$7,000 revised estimate.
- Mains Maintenance – increased by \$15,000 – costs for installation of additional fire hydrants in Junee Shire.
- Pumping Station Energy Costs – increased by \$160,000 as a result of increase in water consumption.
- Pumping Station Maintenance Costs – increased by \$80,000 – revised estimate.
- Purchase of water – increased by \$5,160 – increase in Mt Daylight costs.

Operating expenditure increased by \$186,960.

Changes to capital

- Developer Charges/Capital Contributions – increased by \$41,000 – revised estimate.

The following changes are proposed to the budget:

Adopted operating budget (surplus)	\$396,880
Revision at 30 September 2006 – deficit	-\$193,533
Revision at 31 December 2006 – surplus	\$676,240
Revised result – 30 June 2007 – anticipated surplus	\$879,587

At this stage there are no major areas of concern and the review indicates that Council's financial position is satisfactory.

Recommendation

That the quarterly budget review report as at 31 December 2006 be noted and that Council adopt the variations as listed.

- 07/005 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Edwards that the quarterly budget review report as at 31 December 2006 be noted and that Council adopt the variations as listed.

6. PENSION REBATES

Council is required to write-off concessions granted to eligible pensioners for water supplied. Nineteen hundred and one concession claims are current and require the writing-off for the period: 1 October 2006 to 31 December 2006. (Subsidy claims \$24,244.85 – Claim 133)

Recommendation

That Council hereby write-off, as mandatory concessions, the amount of \$44,232.04 in pensioner concession rebates for the period 1 October 2006 to 31 December 2006.

- 07/006 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and O'Brien that Council hereby write-off, as mandatory concessions, the amount of \$44,232.04 in pensioner concession rebates for the period 1 October 2006 to 31 December 2006.

**F. WORKS REPORT (Nick Nasser)
DECEMBER 2006**

1. WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS

DATE	TIME		LOCATION	AFFECTED CONNS.	DIA/ TYPE (mm)	EST. LOSS (KI)	REASON
	Off	On					
7/12/06	-	-	Binya	2	100	10	Split pipe
11/12/06	-	-	Springdale – Temora	-	-	2	Joint failure
13/12/06	-	-	Coota 375 line	-	-	5	Joints leaking
13/12/06	-	-	Barmedman – Wyalong	-	300	40	Joint failure
19/12/06	11.00	12.30	Deep Water Road, Matong	15	100	50	Split pipe
20/12/06	2.30	6.30	Waterview Street, Ganmain	20	100	15	Split pipe
22/12/06	-	-	Barmedman	-	100	20	Cracked pipe

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26/12/06	6.30	10.30	Thanowring Road, Temora	50	250	30	Split pipe
27/12/06	-	-	Barellan Road, Weethalle	-	100	15	Cracked pipe
28/12/06	9.30	12.30	Malebo Range	10	80	20	Split pipe
28/12/06	-	-	Gubatta Road, Naradhan	-	100	25	Hole in pipe
30/12/06	6.30	9.30	Ashelford Street, Temora	30	100	30	Split pipe
30/12/06	-	-	Old Junee	-	100	10	Hole in pipe

2. COMPLAINTS

Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

Dirty Water – Other

1/12/06 Wallace Street, Coolamon
4/12/06 Wattle lane, Coolamon
4/12/06 Illabo Road, Marinna
5/12/05 Bridges Street, Temora
6/12/06 Wallace Street, Coolamon
11/12/06 Barellan Road, Moombooldool
12/12/06 Maitland Street, West Wyalong
13/12/06 Wallace Street, Coolamon
28/12/06 Coolamon
29/12/06 Temora

Other Problems:

A total of 61 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of December.

3. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE

The following significant Works were undertaken in December 2006:-

- Cut in new pipework at Percy, Roberts, Harold and James Streets, Junee
- Completed new section of pipe under railway line at Pucawan.
- On-going valve maintenance on Aria Park to Barellan pipeline
- Install new pump set for Coolamon pumps at Ganmain
- Commission new reservoirs and pipe work at Lonsdales Lane
- Fabricate new excavator trailer
- Fabricate new penstocks for filters at Jugiong

**G. WORKS REPORT (Nick Nasser)
JANUARY 2007**

WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS

DATE	TIME		LOCATION	AFFECTED CONS.	DIA/TYPE (mm)	EST. LOSS (KI)	REASON
	Off	On					
2/1/07	4.00	5.30	Malebo Range	20	150	50	Split pipe
2/1/07	4.30	5.30	Old Temora Road	-	150	20	Hole in pipe
4/1/07	-	-	Temora	-	375	10	Joint failure
5/1/07	4.00	6.00	Matong	15	100	100	Split pipe
8/1/07	-	-	Trunk main – Barmedman	-	300	10	Joint failure
10/1/07	9.30	11.00	Hide Street, Temora	3	100	5	Leaking valve
11/1/07	2.00	3.30	Delaven Street, Temora	5	100	8	Leaking joint
14/1/07	9.00	12.00	Matong	15	100	10	Split pipe
16/1/07	-	-	Trungley Hall Road	3	50	5	Split pipe
16/1/07	-	-	Barmedman – Wyalong	-	300	10	Joint failure
17/1/07	-	-	Cootamundra Road, Temora	20	375	50	Hole in pipe
20/1/07	8.00	11.00	Wise Street, Marrar	4	100	50	Hole in pipe
20/1/07	3.30	6.30	Beckom Town	30	100	20	Split pipe
24/1/07	-	-	Binya	-	100	10	Split pipe
28/1/07	-	-	Binya	2	100	20	Split pipe
28/1/07	5.00	8.00	Wise Street, Marrar	20	100	100	Split pipe
29/1/07	-	-	Naradhan Road, Gubatta	-	100	12	Cracked pipe
29/1/07	-	-	Barmedman	-	100	15	Split pipe
29/1/07	-	-	Garoolgan	-	100	5	Split pipe
31/1/07	10.30	2.00	Main Street, Matong	15	100	50	Split pipe
31/1/07	7.30	10.00	Deep Water Road, Matong	10	100	20	Split pipe

4. COMPLAINTS

Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

10/1/07	Junction Street
Dirty Water – Other	
4/1/07	Fairweathers Lane, Coolamon
5/1/07	Showground Road, Ganmain
9/1/07	Cowabbie Street, Coolamon
15/1/07	Wade Street, Coolamon
16/1/07	Curtis Street, Coolamon
17/1/07	Dyces Lane, Coolamon
18/1/07	Coolamon
29/1/07	Trungley Hall Road, Temora
31/1/07	Wood Street, Stockinbingal

Other Problems:

A total of 91 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of January.

5. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE

The following significant Works were undertaken in January 2007:-

- Install upgraded A.C.V Marrar town reservoir
- Replace reflux valve Lonsdales Lane pump station
- Service Reflux valve on Surge tanks Jugiong – Young
- Cut in new reservoir pipework at Ganmain
- Hydrant maintenance across scheme continued
- 150m of 150mm mains extension layed in Gwynne Place – Junee.

Recommendation

That the information be noted

07/007 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and McGregor that the information be noted.

OTHER REPORTS

1. CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT (*Paul Wearne*)

Attached for the information of Councillors is the Capital Works Progress Reports for the period ending 31 December 2006 and 31 January 2007.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

07/008 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Manchester that the information be noted.

2. WATER PRODUCTION AND BULK SALES (*Paul Wearne*)

The Year to Date Water Production and Bulk Sales graphs are included in the Business Paper for the information of Councillors. The consumption within the Oura and Jugiong schemes (including Cootamundra, Harden and Young) has been curtailed since the introduction of Level C Restrictions on 1 December 2006. The imposition of Level D Restrictions on the Mt Arthur, Mt Daylight and

Hylands Bridge schemes at the same time has improved the position in these schemes however all three are still above their year to date maximum allocation.

With the drought continuing to tighten its grip and the security of water for Local Water Utilities such as Goldenfields not assured, it would seem that the responsible course of action is to leave the current levels of restriction in place at least until the end of March.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

07/009 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Edwards and Manchester that the information be noted.

3. WATER ALLOCATION FOR HYLANDS BRIDGE SCHEME (*Paul Wearne*)

Council will recall at the December 2006 meeting that the water allocation for the Hylands Bridge/Brobenah scheme was in real danger of being exhausted by the end of this month if consumption continued at the then present rate and that the purchase of additional water was extremely difficult. Level 2 Restrictions were imposed on this system effective from 11 December 2006 in an effort to curtail usage.

Councillors will also recall at the December meeting that Cr Edwards suggested that there may be a possibility of Goldenfields acquiring water from Narrandera Shire Council that was surplus to their needs. Discussions were held with Narrandera Shire Council immediately after that meeting which resulted in an additional 100 megalitres of Non-tradable water being transferred from Narrandera Shire Council to Goldenfields and restrictions being relaxed to Level D effective 27 December 2006. As this water could not be “purchased” it was effectively transferred free of charge. The only stipulation that Narrandera Shire Council placed on the transfer was that Goldenfields consider waiving the charges for water consumed by Narrandera Shire Council connections on the system until the end of the current water year. Given that the value of the water on the open market is \$40,000 to \$50,000 and last year’s sales to NSC connections on the system were approximately \$15,800 for the whole year, the request does not seem unreasonable.

Recommendation

That in recognition of the contribution made by Narrandera Shire Council to the continuation of supply to the Hylands Bridge/Brobenah scheme, water accounts in the name of Narrandera Shire Council within that scheme covering the billing periods January 2007 to June 2007 be paid by a donation from Goldenfields Water.

Cr Edwards declared an interest and refrained from participating in the debate and from voting.

07/010 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O’Brien and Manchester that in recognition of the contribution made by Narrandera Shire Council to the continuation of supply to the Hylands Bridge/Brobenah scheme, water accounts in the name of

Narrandera Shire Council within that scheme covering the billing periods January 2007 to June 2007 be paid by a donation from Goldenfields Water.

4. THIRD PARTY AERIALS ON RESERVOIRS (*Paul Wearne*)

A request has been received from Bland Shire Council (copy attached) for approval to affix a radio transmitter to Goldenfields Water Reservoir located in Tower Street, West Wyalong. Optus Mobile Pty Ltd currently has a lease, entered into in 2002, for its equipment located on the reservoir with this lease expiring in February 2017. Whilst the physical location of the aerial will not have an adverse effect on our operations, the area on top of the reservoir is becoming somewhat congested and we have in recent years tendered to not allow new installations (other than our own) on Goldenfields infrastructure.

Goldenfields currently does not have a policy position on the use of its infrastructure for such purposes and the matter for consideration is whether such a policy should be developed or whether each application is assessed on its merit. Public liability, occupational health and safety and access are some of the areas of concern that will need to be addressed before making a decision. It is worthy of note that we currently have some informal reciprocal arrangements with some state government organisation in the emergency services field.

From a managerial perspective, a Policy on this matter does make response to any application timelier.

Attached for the consideration of Council is Draft Policy 2004021.

Recommendation

That Draft Policy 2004021 be adopted.

07/011 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Palmer and Manchester that draft policy 2004021 be adopted.

5. REPORT TO MINISTER – REVIEW OF OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES (*Paul Wearne*)

Minute 06/153 of the Meeting held on 23 November 2006 is reproduced below for the information of Councillors:-

“RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. Speirs and Manchester:

- 1. That the report presented to the November 2006 meeting of Council entitled ‘Review of Relative Efficiencies and Economies of Reticulation and Distribution of Water’ be accepted as a working document, which is still a work in progress.*
- 2. That it be noted that the report as above still requires detailed information from the General Purpose Councils of Harden, Young and Cootamundra Prior to completion.*
- 3. That in accordance with paragraph 16 of the Proclamation Establishing Goldenfields, the councils referred to in paragraph 15(b) and 15(c) of*

that document be directed to provide to the General Manager of Goldenfields within 14 days of receipt of such direction, all requested information pertaining to their respective water operations.

4. *That the Minister for Water Utilities be informed on the progress of the Review.*
5. *That following the consideration and finalisation of the Report by Council, it be placed on public exhibition for comment for 28 days.*
6. *That the Report along with submissions received be forwarded to the Minister for Water Utilities for consideration.”*

In accordance with the above resolution, the three shire councils were contacted and all provided the additional information requested. This additional information has been incorporated into the second draft of the document and a copy is included with the Business Paper mail out. The Minister for Water Utilities was also informed on the progress of the Review.

When considering the report, Councillors should take into account what is best for Goldenfields as an organization and also what is best for the consumers of the whole of the Goldenfields area. The conclusions drawn in the Report puts forward four options.

- The first option (i.e. the status quo) is not in the best interests of Goldenfields the organization.
- The second option (CPI catch up), while addressing the financial sustainability of this organization is not in the best interests of its consumers. It would see a significant increase in the price of water for both our Retail and Bulk customers, who in turn would have to pass it on to their Retail customers.
- Option 3 (revert back to the original intent of the Proclamation) whilst not readily acceptable to the councils of Cootamundra, Harden and Young, will address the financial sustainability of Goldenfields and will also provide best value for all the customers within the whole Goldenfields area.
- The fourth option (amend the legislation) effectively “excommunicates” Cootamundra, Harden and Young councils from the Goldenfields organisation and defines them as a large volume customer. This makes all four organisations autonomous with respect to reticulation of water.

Without prejudice, it is my professional opinion as General Manager of Goldenfields that the provision of water to all consumers within its area can be provided cheapest by Goldenfields. I am also of the opinion that if the present arrangements continue without addressing the pricing issue the viability of Goldenfields in the long term will be questionable. Therefore, (and again) in the best interests of Goldenfields, options 3 and 4 from the Report are preferred.

Recommendations

1. That the report presented to the February 2007 meeting of Council entitled ‘Review of Relative Efficiencies and Economies of Reticulation and Distribution of Water’ be adopted subject to the inclusion of any resolutions of Council determined at this meeting.
2. That it be recommended to the Minister for Energy, Utilities and Sustainability that for the long-term sustainability of Goldenfields Water

County Council, the care, control and management of the whole Goldenfields area, as defined in paragraph 2 of the Ministerial Proclamation of 24 April 1997, be undertaken by Goldenfields Water County Council and that the Minister be requested to determine the timeframe and the conditions under which the transition will occur.

3. That were the above recommendation not acceptable to the Minister then it be requested that the Ministerial Proclamation of 24 April 1997 be amended to remove paragraphs 15(b), 15(c) and 16 of Schedule C and that the assets, rights and liabilities arising from the care, control and management of water supply in the respective areas referred to in paragraphs 15(b) and 15(c) be vested in the respective council.
4. That the above report be placed on public exhibition for comment for 28 days from 26 February 2007 to 18 March 2007.
5. That the report along with copies of submissions received be forwarded to the Minister for Water Utilities for consideration.

07/012 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Edwards and O'Brien

1. That the report presented to the February 2007 meeting of Council entitled 'Review of Relative Efficiencies and Economies of Reticulation and Distribution of Water' be adopted subject to the inclusion of any resolutions of Council determined at this meeting.
2. That it be recommended to the Minister for Energy, Utilities and Sustainability that for the long-term sustainability of Goldenfields Water County Council, the care, control and management of the whole Goldenfields area, as defined in paragraph 2 of the Ministerial Proclamation of 24 April 1997, be undertaken by Goldenfields Water County Council and that the Minister be requested to determine the timeframe and the conditions under which the transition will occur.
3. That were the above recommendation not acceptable to the Minister then the present arrangements will continue with previously foregone CPI increases in "retail" and "bulk" prices to be applied over a period to be determined by Council.
4. That the above report be placed on public exhibition for comment for 28 days from 26 February 2007 to 26 March 2007.
5. That the report along with copies of submissions received be forwarded to the Minister for Water Utilities for consideration.

Crs Palmer, Manchester and McGregor requested that their votes in the negative be recorded in the Minutes.

6. REVIEW OF PRICING STRUCTURE (Paul Wearne)

At the April 2006 Meeting Council resolved "that the Draft Management Plan be amended so that the Retail consumption price be set at \$1.10 per kilolitre and that the Bulk Council consumption price be set at 54% of that price (i.e. \$0.5940 per kilolitre). Access charges are to remain unchanged from those set for the 2005/06 year. This pricing structure is to be an interim measure for the 2006/07

year only with Council to determine an alternative pricing structure prior to the preparation of the 2007/08 Draft Management Plan”.

Staff have commenced the management plan and budget preparation process however are unable to proceed much further until such time as the direction Council wish to take is known. Obviously the result of item 5 above will impact on this decision and until that matter is resolved it would be extremely difficult for Council to advise staff how to proceed. It is therefore suggested that the determination of an alternative pricing structure be again deferred until such time as the matter of the Report to the Minister is concluded. With regard to the Draft Management Plan for 2007/08, particularly in respect of fees and charges and estimated revenue, it is suggested that the Draft be prepared on the premise that the Retail consumption price be \$1.14 per kilolitre and that the Bulk Council consumption price be 54% of that price (i.e. \$0.6156 per kilolitre). Access charges are to remain unchanged from those set for the current year.

Recommendation

1. That the determination of an alternative pricing structure be deferred until such time as the matter of the Report to the Minister is concluded.
2. That the Draft Management Plan for 2007/08 be prepared on the premise that the Retail consumption price be \$1.14 per kilolitre and that the Bulk Council consumption price be 54% of that price (i.e. \$0.6156 per kilolitre). Access charges are to remain unchanged from those set for the current year.

07/013 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Edwards and Speirs:

1. That the determination of an alternative pricing structure be deferred until such time as the matter of the Report to the Minister is concluded.
2. That the Draft Management Plan for 2007/08 be prepared on the premise that the Retail consumption price be \$1.14 per kilolitre and that the Bulk Council consumption price be 54% of that price (i.e. \$0.6156 per kilolitre). Access charges are to remain unchanged from those set for the current year.

7. GENERAL MANAGERS EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT *(Paul Wearne)*

The terms and conditions of the Contract of Employment between Council and the General Manager require that a review of his performance be undertaken annually (in March). For this to be formally completed it is suggested that a Sub Committee of Councillors be delegated this responsibility and report back to the next meeting.

Recommendation

That a Sub Committee comprising the Chairman and Deputy Chairman be authorised to undertake a performance review of the General Manager.

07/014 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Speirs that a Sub Committee comprising the Chairman and Deputy Chairman be authorised to undertake a performance review of the General Manager.

8. NO. 2 BORE – MATONG *(Nick Nasser)*

On 2 February 2007 it became evident from Bore pump level probes that the draw down water level in No. 2 Bore at Matong had receded to a critical level in relation to the pump.

It was established that approximately 2.5metres of water remained above the pump intake on draw down.

No. 1 bore, although, certainly being at a lower level than is usual is still functional and has been selected as duty pump.

No. 2 bore speed has been reduced and can function quite safely at a slightly lower flow rate.

To overcome the problem an extension of bore column is required to submerge the pump further into the aquifer by 10 metres. The bore has the capacity for this to be done.

Materials have been ordered and are due to arrive on 9 February 2007 with an overall cost of \$30,500 estimated for the work.

For Councils information

07/015 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGregor and Speirs that the information be noted.

9. SPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT *(Bill West)*

Council currently uses MapInfo as a general mapping application that enables depiction of the visual relationship between mapping and data.

Unfortunately the accuracy has been disappointing in that the cadastre (displayed title boundaries) information supplied by the Lands Department has inherent inaccuracies of between 10 metres and 100 metres. This is due to the information in electronic format being derived from digitized hard copies of plans, where an error of 0.1mm in digitizing a boundary location on a plan scaled at 1:100,000 would result in a 10 metre error on the electronic plan. Also the MapInfo drafting tools are quite basic and not intuitive, ie. allowing pipelines to be drawn as separate lines with gaps and valves placed remote from the pipeline. These inaccuracies have produced maps which are “fudged” and at the best are “indicative” of asset infrastructure locations and property boundaries, see attached example. It also means that the information cannot be imported into third party software for modelling or asset management.

Nevertheless, the current spatial data within GWCC is consistent with the original goal of being able to generate maps, (digital and hard copy) that show relative asset locations. GWCC has now progressed beyond indicative mapping and requires a system that produces accurate data, has the ability to perform hydraulic modelling, is compatible with modern asset management systems and is capable of linking with water billing systems.

Our current spatial information cannot, without significant (maybe even total) amendment be used for asset location, design, modelling or asset management. Should the data be rectified and verified, MapInfo is a general mapping tool that

needs integration with third party software to produce hydraulic modelling and asset management systems.

Investigation by the Spatial Project Manager of the Spatial Information Management Project involving the councils of Bland, Coolamon, Goldenfields, Junee and Temora has recommended the following software to improve the accuracy and functionality of Council's spatial information system:

- AutoDesk Civil 3D – an industry standard which we already have;
- Munsys – data validation tool that reads CAD information and stores it in the Oracle Spatial Database. Many water authorities including Riverina Water use the Munsys system because of the ease of use and the focus that it has to the water industry;
- Oracle – the largest spatial database provider, provides a database which is robust and integrates with other data sources.

The quoted price to install the Munsys Spatial Data Management Application, including software and commissioning is \$68,712.85 (GST excl) with an additional \$70,018.00 (GST excl) required in the subsequent year to install additional software to search and extract information and integrate with asset and document management systems.

Recommendation

That the report be noted and the allocation of funding for the installation and commissioning of the Munsys Spatial Data Management Application package funding be considered in the 2007/08 Management Plan.

07/016 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Speirs that the report be noted and the allocation of funding for the installation and commissioning of the Munsys Spatial Data Management Application package funding be considered in the 2007/08 Management Plan.

10. FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS *(Paul Wearne)*

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for April 2007 and it is suggested that this meeting be held in Temora.

Recommendation

That the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Thursday 26 April at Council's Temora offices.

07/017 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and O'Brien that the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Thursday 26 April at Council's Temora offices.

I. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr Speirs sought and was provided with information relating to Hoskins Street.

Cr Macaulay sought and was provided with information relating to the temporary connections at Coursing Park, Downside.

Cr Macaulay sought and was provided with information relating to the Phillips/Harris connection at June Reef.

CLOSED SESSION (*Pink pages*) – 1.00pm

07/018 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Speirs that the Council meet in Closed Session.

07/019 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Speirs that the tender submitted by Templemichael Constructions Pty Ltd be accepted subject to satisfactory resolution of contractual issues for "The Construction of the 33.6 km long, DN 375 Stockinbingal to Temora Replacement Water Supply Pipeline" for the lump sum of \$8,409,268.31 including GST.

OPEN SESSION – 1.16pm

07/020 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Manchester and Speirs that the Council revert to Open Session and that the resolutions made in closed session be made public.

There being no further business requiring the attention of the Council, the Meeting closed at 1.16pm.
