

MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICES on THURSDAY 28 JUNE 2007 starting at 1.05pm.

PRESENT

Cr. D. Bolte (Chair), Cr. C. Manchester, Cr. P. Speirs, 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, Mr. B. West, Group Leader – Engineering and Miss K. Turner, Executive Assistant.

A. APOLOGIES

07/048 An apology for non-attendance was received from Cr. J Macaulay and a leave of absence was granted on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Palmer

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 26 APRIL 2007.

07/049 The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2007 having been circulated and read by the Members, were confirmed on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Manchester.

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

NIL

D. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Katrina Hodgkinson, MP, Member for Burrinjuck Acknowledging receipt of Council's correspondence and advising that she has made representations on our behalf to the Minister for Water Utilities.
Recommendation That the information be noted.

07/050 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Palmer that the information be noted.

2. Kay Hull, MP, Member for Riverina Acknowledging receipt of Council's correspondence and enclosing a copy of representations she has made on our behalf to the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources.
Recommendation That the information be noted.

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07/051 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Palmer that the information be noted.

3. Nathan Rees, MP, Minister for
Water Utilities

Introducing himself as Minister for
Water Utilities.

Recommendation That the
information be noted.

07/052 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Palmer that the information be noted.

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E. FINANCIAL REPORT (P. Dwyer)

1. CHEQUE WARRANTS – APRIL 2007 AND BANK RECONCILIATION

Warrant

Fund	Voucher Numbers	\$
Water	17329 – 17424 Autopays 600234-600235 70957 – 70994	\$2,288,448.53

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance	\$ 112,937.27
Deposits	\$2,429,734.53
	<u>\$2,542,671.80</u>
Withdrawals	\$2,288,448.53
Balance as at 30 April 2007	<u>\$ 254,223.27</u>

2. CHEQUE WARRANTS – MAY 2007 AND BANK RECONCILIATION

Warrant

Fund	Voucher Numbers	\$
Water	17425 – 17584 Autopays 600236-600237 70995 – 71043	\$1,483,322.92

Bank Reconciliation

Opening Balance	\$ 254,223.27
Deposits	\$1,569,204.15
	<u>\$1,823,427.42</u>
Withdrawals	\$1,483,322.92
Balance as at 31 May 2007	<u>\$ 340,104.50</u>

3. REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS

Listed below are Council's Investments as at 30 April 2007

Financial Institution	Face Value	Annualised Interest Rate %
NSW Treasury – Cash Facility	\$6,632,380.38	6.67
Local Govt Financial Services – Cash	\$14,392,713.60	6.62
Commonwealth Bank – At Call	\$2,086,025.41	6.20
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 25.7.07-194296	\$700,000.00	6.39
LGFS Term Deposit due 09.8.07-193412	\$500,000.00	6.50
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
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.3.08-193928	\$500,000.00	6.75
TOTAL:	\$26,811,119.39	

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

Financial Institution	Face Value	Annualised Interest Rate %
NSW Treasury – Cash Facility	\$6,668,460.46	6.41
Local Govt Financial Services – Cash	\$14,468,923.97	6.20
Commonwealth Bank – At Call	\$2,086,025.41	6.20
CBA Term Deposit due 01.06.07	\$500,000.00	6.32
LGFS Term Deposit due 25.7.07-194296	\$700,000.00	6.39
LGFS Term Deposit due 09.8.07-193412	\$500,000.00	6.50
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
LGFS Term Deposit due 20.3.08-193928	\$500,000.00	6.75
TOTAL:	\$26,423,409.84	

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.

07/053 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Manchester that the information in respect to items E1 and E3 be noted.

4. OUTSTANDING DEBTORS

The balances outstanding as at 2 May 2007 were:

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	42,801	6,621	175,072	224,494
Consumption Charges	156,718	35,389	557,847	749,954
Deferred headworks			65,100	65,100
TOTAL:	199,519	42,010	798,019	1,039,548
Overpayments				56,756

The balances outstanding as at 12 June 2007 were:

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Access Charges	30,718	6,703	126,787	164,208
Consumption Charges	99,185	37,004	244,937	381,126
Deferred headworks			65,100	65,100
TOTAL:	129,903	43,707	436,824	610,434
Overpayments				74,086

Recommendation

That the report on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

07/054 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Edwards and Palmer that the report on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

5. STORES STOCK-TAKE

The half-yearly stock-take of Council's stores and materials was conducted on 23 May 2007. As a result of the stock-take 15 items with discrepancies require the following adjustments:

Write-ons	\$240.43
Write-offs	\$191.36
Net adjustment (write-on)	\$49.07

All discrepancies are considered reasonable given the volume of stores movements.

Recommendation

That the report of the stores and materials stock-take be noted and the required adjustment of a net write-on of \$49.07 be approved.

07/055 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and McGregor that the report of the stores and materials stock-take be noted, the required adjustment of a net write-on of \$49.07 be approved and the staff involved be commended on the net adjustment outcome through a letter of recognition.

F. WORKS REPORT *(Nick Nasser)*
APRIL 2007

1. WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS

DATE	TIME		LOCATION	AFFECTED CONS.	DIA/TYPE (mm)	EST. LOSS (KI)	REASON
	Off	On					
2/4/07	-	-	Star Street, Barmedman	-	100	1	Joint failure
2/4/07	-	-	Leeton Road, Barellan	100	100	10	Hole in pipe
2/4/07	10.30	1.00	Malebo Range	-	50	50	Split pipe
3/4/07	-	-	Garoolgan	100	100	5	Hole in line
3/4/07	-	-	Gladstone Street, West Wyalong	-	100	2	Damaged by contractor
4/4/07	-	-	Cowangs - Bauloora	-	-	-	Joint failure
4/4/07	-	-	Thanowring Road, Temora	-	250	10	Cracked pipe
4/4/07	-	-	Garoolgan - Binya	-	100	5	Split in pipe
4/4/07	-	-	Leeton Road, Barellan	-	100	5	Split in pipe
4/4/07	-	-	Ardlethan Town	-	100	5	Cracked pipe
4/4/07	-	-	Weethalle Retic	-	-	-	Hydrant maintenance
9/4/07	-	-	Brobenah	100	150	200	Cracked pipe
10/4/07	-	-	Star Street, Barmedman	1	50	0.5	Joint failure
11/4/07	-	-	Trunk main, Wyalong	-	-	-	Maintenance
12/4/07	-	-	Ariah Park Road, Barmedman	-	100	5	Hole in pipe
16/4/07	1.00	3.00	Rannock Road, Coolamon	-	50	1	Cracked pipe
16/4/07	-	-	Springdale - Temora	100	-	-	Joint failure
16/4/07	-	-	Combaning	-	375	5	Joint failure
17/4/07	-	-	Binya	-	100	1	Split pipe
18/4/07	11.00	2.00	Mirrool Street, Coolamon	20	100	20	Spilt pipe
19/4/07	-	-	Hadrill's Lane, Mt. Daylight	-	80	20	Crack in pipe
21/4/07	-	-	Crowley Street, Temora	-	100	5	Joint failure
22/4/07	2.00	6.00	Wallace Street, Coolamon	15	100	20	Spilt pipe
23/4/07	9.00	2.00	Coolamon	20	150	50	Cracked pipe
23/4/07	-	-	Weethalle - Barellan	-	100	10	Spilt pipe

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23/4/07	-	-	Barellan Road, Weethalle	-	100	25	Cracked pipe
23/4/07	8.30	12.30	Mann Street, Coolamon	10	100	20	Split pipe
23/4/07	9.00	1.00	Cowabbie Street, Coolamon	20	150	20	Spilt pipe
26/4/07	-	-	Junee	-	100	1	Split pipe
27/4/07	-	-	Stockinbingal/ Springdale	-	-	-	Hole in pipe

2. COMPLAINTS

Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

Nil

Dirty Water – Other

06/04/07 Wattle Lane, Coolamon
10/04/07 Binya Street, Grong Grong
20/04/07 Ford Street, Ganmain
24/04/07 Temora Road, Coolamon

Other Problems:

11/04/07 Millwood Road, Coolamon – Unpleasant tasting water.

A total of 50 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of April.

3. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE

The following significant Works were undertaken in April 2007:-

- Continue PRV & ACV maintenance.
- Install new reflux and stop valve on Lonsdales Lane pump.
- Install new reflux valve and power activated valve on Oura No.3 Bore.
- No.1 transfer pump at Temora removed, overhauled and reinstalled.
- Continue hydrant maintenance.
- Commission new pumping equipment at Matong pumping station.
- Lower water main for road works in Gladstone Street, Wyalong.
- Continue with Junee pipe work upgrade.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

07/056 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Edwards and O'Brien that the information be noted.

G. WORKS REPORT (Nick Nasser)
MAY 2007

1. WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS

DATE	TIME		LOCATION	AFFECTED CONNS.	DIA/ TYPE (mm)	EST. LOSS (KI)	REASON
	Off	On					
1/5/07	7.30	1.30	Showground Road, Ganmain	40	150	200	Spilt pipe
1/5/07	12.30	5.00	Springdale	40	375	50	Hole in pipe
2/5/07	8.30	11.30	Grant Street, Ganmain	-	100	50	Spilt pipe
2/5/07	1.30	4.00	Marrar - Coolamon	20	100	50	Spilt pipe
2/5/07	11.00	6.00	Marrar Town	-	100	20	Spilt pipe
2/5/07	-	-	Junee	-	100	10	Spilt pipe
2/5/07	-	-	Cootamundra	-	100	10	Spilt pipe
2/5/07	8.00	10.00	Camp Street, Ganmain	-	100	15	Cracked pipe
2/5/07	10.30	5.00	Stockinbingal	50	375	200	Hole in pipe
2/5/07	1.00	4.00	Marrar main	20	100	20	Spilt pipe
3/5/07	7.00	12.30	Temora	20	200	100	Spilt pipe
3/5/07	9.00	11.30	Wood Street, Marrar	30	100	50	Spilt pipe
6/5/07	3.00	6.00	Old Junee	-	80	15	Spilt pipe
7/5/07	-	-	Cowangs to Bauloora	-	375	15	Hole in pipe
7/5/07 – 12/5/07	-	-	Kings Creek	-	450	100	Pipe movement
7/5/07	10.00	12.00	Malebo Range	-	80	50	Spilt pipe
7/5/07	-	-	Trunk main, West Wyalong	-	300	35	Joint failure
7/5/07	-	-	Barmedman	-	300	5	Joint failure
7/5/07	-	-	Moomboodool	2	100	10	Spilt pipe
9/5/07	12.00	4.30	Edwards Corner	-	-	0.5	Rust hole
9/5/07	-	-	Cootamundra	-	15	20	Hole in pipe
10/5/07	-	-	Beckom Retic	-	100	5	Cracked pipe
11/5/07	-	-	Trunk main, West Wyalong	-	300	1	Joint failure
16/5/07	-	-	Bethungra	-	150	15	Spilt pipe
18/5/07	-	-	Bean Street, Tallimba	-	150	5	Split pipe
21/5/07	-	-	Cowangs - Bauloora	-	-	4	Hole in pipe
22/5/07	11.00	12.00	Matong trunk main	-	100	2	Cracked pipe
25/5/07	-	-	Monia Gap Road,	-	80	1	Split pipe

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			Naradhan				
26/5/07	6.30	9.00	Wood Street, Marrar	10	100	200	Split pipe

2. COMPLAINTS

Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

11/05/07 53 Seignor Street
11/05/07 22 Regent Street
14/05/07 23 Fitzroy Street

Dirty Water – Other

25/05/07 30 Loch Street, Ganmain

Other Problems:

Nil

A total of 62 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of May.

3. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE

The following significant Works were undertaken in May 2007:-

- Continue upgrade of pipelines in Junee.
- Install permanent pipe work at Southern side of Kings Creek crossing – Kingsvale.
- Installed new standpipe at Junee Shire Council Depot.
- Installed new air valves and stop valves on Eurongilly line.
- Cut-in new pipe work in Nottingham Road, Temora.
- Cut-in new pipe work for Airport development at Temora.
- Swabbed bore header mains at Oura.
- No.2 Highlift pump at Jugiong removed for service.
- No.3 pump at Demondrille removed for service.
- No.2 pump at Weethalle re-installed and tested following service.
- No.2 transfer pump at Temora re-installed and tested following service.
- Continue PRV & ACV maintenance.
- Serviced drive gear on No.1 sludge rake at Jugiong WTP.
- Install and test No.2 pump and motor at Reefton following overhaul.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

07/057 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Spiers that the information be noted.

H. 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 May 2007.

Recommendation:

That the information be noted.

07/058 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Speirs that the information be noted.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL DETERMINATION (*Paul Wearne*)

Department of Local Government Circular 07-25 (4 June 2007) advises that the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has made determinations under section 242 of the *Local Government Act 1993* of the annual fees to be paid to mayors and councillors effective on and from 1 July 2007.

Goldenfields Water is categorised “S4” and therefore the range of annual fees are:-

	Minimum	Maximum
Councillor / Member	\$1,320	\$7,270
Chairperson	\$2,815	\$11,940

Councillors presently receive \$5,243 per annum and the Chairman an additional \$8,610. This is in accordance with Minute 06/096 of the September 2006 meeting where Council resolved to set the fees at 75% of the then maximum.

For Council’s determination

07/059 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Palmer that for the remaining term of this Council the remuneration level for Councillors and the Chairman be set at 75% of the maximum allowable as determined from time to time by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

3. 2007/08 DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN (*Paul Wearne*)

Pursuant to Minute 07/039 from Council’s April Meeting, the Draft Management Plan for 2007/08 has been circulated and advertised for comment.

The closing date for comments was 1 June 2007 with one (1) submission (copy attached) being received from Junee Shire Council.

The present levels of uncertainty relating to the availability of water for the 2007/08 year (refer item 4 below) do have the potential to have a significant impact on the organisation particularly with respect to meeting projected revenues. Once the current uncertainty is resolved, staff will be in a better position to report such impacts.

Further review of the document by staff has identified two (2) minor changes to the publicly displayed Draft Management Plan that require amendment. These are:-

1. Page 30 – Meter Test Deposit. Remove the wording *Refundable if registering above 3% inaccuracy* and replace with *Non-refundable if meter registers less than 3 percent more or less than the correct quantity*. The suggested wording clarifies the issue and is in line with Section 158 (5) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005
2. Page 30 – Interest on Overdue Charges. The Minister for Local Government has determined that a maximum of 10% may be charged on Overdue Charges (currently 9%)

Recommendation

1. That the wording relating to Meter Test Deposit be amended to comply with Section 158 (5) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005
2. That applicable interest rate to be charged on overdue charges be amended from 9% to 10%
3. That the Draft 2007/08 Management Plan, as amended, be adopted.

07/060 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Speirs and O'Brien that the wording relating to Meter Test Deposit be amended to comply with Section 1158 (5) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, that applicable interest rate be charged on overdue charges be amended from 9% to 10% and that the Draft 2007/08 Management Plan, as amended, be adopted.

4. CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2007-08 (Paul Wearne)

Councillors will be aware, through regular updates from the General Manager, of the ongoing matter of availability of water for the 2007/08 water year. At time of writing this report, there has still been no formal advice from the NSW Government regarding the amount of water that will be available to Goldenfields.

On 8 June the Department of Water and Energy (DWE), through the Minister's Working Group, requested Goldenfields "critical water requirements for the months of July, August and September". These requirements were forwarded to the REROC representative on the working group the same day.

A further update will be provided to Councillors at the meeting.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

4. CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2007-08 SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT (Paul Wearne)

Since the preparation of the Business Paper for this meeting, the (Federal) Department of the Environment and Water Resources has released the Murray-Darling Basin Dry Inflow Contingency Planning, Overview Report to First Minister, May 2007. A copy of the report is attached for the information of Council. The report is still recommending (page 13) that all outside water use for domestic purposes be prohibited from July 1 2007. Recommendation 6 of the report (page 8) suggests some flexibility in the allocation of water is permitted by State and Territories and their authorities in exceptional circumstances.

Discussions with Department of Water and Energy (DWE) representatives have been ongoing. The latest information (received in the late afternoon of Tuesday 26 June 2007) by way of a Media Release from Minister Koperberg, was forwarded to Councillors the same day. A copy is attached. Whilst the communiqué states that “the Iemma Government today reminded towns along the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers that Level Four water restrictions should come into force from Sunday July 1” it does not advise what “Level 4 Restrictions” actually are and how Local Water Utilities (LWU) will be required to implement, police and/or manage such restrictions. The communiqué also states that “specific restrictions under Level Four can vary slightly across jurisdictions...” which may give a degree of flexibility.

An information pamphlet (copy attached) has been prepared for inclusion in the next mail out of water accounts scheduled for the first week in July. This has been done in an effort to keep customers informed and to forewarn them of the possibility of restrictions being implemented should Goldenfields either be directed to or find it necessary to further restrict consumption. However the window of opportunity to alter this inclusion is extremely small (i.e. close of business this afternoon).

The matter of water was the topic of much debate at the REROC meeting held yesterday (27/06/07). As advised in the Business Paper, GWCC forwarded to DWE on 8 June our “critical water requirements” for July, August and September as did all LWU’s within the REROC area. With this in mind, the direction that REROC members suggested be taken was for LWU’s to impose restrictions that would allow them to stay within their respective “critical water requirements” while still maintaining a degree of flexibility for their communities. Consequently it was resolved that REROC member councils wherever possible, try to have similar levels of restriction across the entire area. It was also resolved that once individual councils determine the level of restriction to be imposed in their respective areas, they forward this information to Ministers Koperberg and Rees stressing the reasons behind making such decisions and enforcing that LWU’s are best placed to ascertain what best meets the needs of its communities.

Riverina Water County Council met yesterday afternoon and resolved to continue with their present level of restrictions and that “the restrictions are that the use of fixed hoses, sprays and fixed sprinkler systems are prohibited for domestic gardens and commercial gardens. There is no restriction on the use of hand held hoses.” Likewise, Gundagai Shire Council has imposed Level 3 Restrictions which provide for the use of hand held hoses only for two hours per day by domestic consumers.

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Taking the above into consideration, I reluctantly must admit that efforts to have Council's position clarified have not been successful to date. It would appear that the majority of LWU within the Murrumbidgee valley have opted to impose some form of restriction as of 1 July 2007 albeit at varying levels. As to whether this approach is the most appropriate one is a decision for individual water utilities.

Staff are of the opinion that the possibility of heavy restrictions being required from Spring 2007 onwards is very high (although recent rain will hopefully have an impact) and whilst we have and will continue to request that customers conserve water, this approach is somewhat of a "toothless tiger". It is therefore suggested that a formal level of restriction be implemented. It is acknowledged that any form of restriction will have minimal impact on consumption during the winter months but it will assist customers in becoming familiar with restriction levels thus making less of an impact should more severe restrictions be required in the coming months.

Recommendation

1. That Council impose the following Restrictions from 7 July 2007 until further notice.

DOMESTIC	
Domestic Gardens Watering	Sprinklers, fixed hoses and fixed sprinkler systems are prohibited
Private Swimming Pools	Filling of pools is prohibited
Washing of paved areas and roofs	Bucket only except as required by law
PUBLIC/COMMERCIAL	
Public Gardens, Sports Grounds and Bowling Greens	Sprinklers for 1 hour per day
Washing of Motor Vehicles	No Restriction
Water Cartage from Town Supply	From Council's Public Standpipes only
INDUSTRIAL	
Ready Mixed Concrete, Abattoirs	No Restriction
Others	No Restriction

Consumers not listed above should contact Council to seek clarification of the impact on them.

2. That a public awareness campaign be undertaken to inform consumers and the public of the imposed restriction.

07/061 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Speirs and McGregor that Council impose the following reasonable Restrictions from 7 July 2007 until further notice

DOMESTIC	
Domestic Gardens Watering	Sprinklers, fixed hoses and fixed sprinkler systems are prohibited
Private Swimming Pools	Filling of pools is prohibited
Washing of paved areas and roofs	Bucket only except as required by law
PUBLIC/COMMERCIAL	
Public Gardens, Sports Grounds and Bowling Greens	Sprinklers for 1 hour per day

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Washing of Motor Vehicles	No Restriction
Water Cartage from Town Supply	From Council's Public Standpipes only
INDUSTRIAL	
Ready Mixed Concrete, Abattoirs	No Restriction
Others	No Restriction

Cr. Palmer requested that his vote in the negative be recorded in the Minutes.

07/062 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Speirs and Manchester that Council write to the Minister for Water Utilities requesting as a matter of urgency he clarify what Goldenfields Water County Council's individual water allocations are for the 2007/07 Water year.

5. RENEWAL OF GOLDENFIELDS "AWARD" (Paul Wearne)

The introduction of the Federal Governments *Work Choices* legislation that came into effect on 27 March 2006 has been the topic of much public debate. Information relating to the matter has been mixed to say the least and the upcoming Federal Election has not helped to clarify the situation. Advice has been sought from the Local Government & Shires Association, the United Services Union and the Office of the Employment Advocate together with information obtained by attendance at numerous seminars and workshops. In an effort to put the matter in some form of perspective a Discussion Paper has been prepared and is attached for the consideration of Council.

Recommendation

1. Council resolve "in principal" support for this Discussion Paper.
2. The Discussion Paper be distributed to all staff for comment with staff required to vote on "in principal" support for the Paper.
3. Subject to acceptance of 1 & 2 above, Council, at the August Meeting, nominate one (1) Councillor to be a member of the working party and determine the level of "interim wage increase" to be granted to the current PCSA effective from the first full pay period after 1 November 2007.

07/063 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Speirs that Council adopt "in principal" support for this Discussion Paper, the Discussion Paper be distributed to all staff for comment with staff required to vote on "in principal" support for the Paper and subject to acceptance of 1 and 2 above, Council, at the August Meeting nominate one (1) Councillor to be a member of the working party and determine the level of "interim wage increase" to be granted to the current PCSA effective from the first full pay period after 1 November 2007.

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

At the time of preparation of this Business Paper no response to the abovementioned report forwarded to the Minister for Water Utilities on 3 April 2007 has been received.

Recommendation

That the information be noted

- 07/064 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and Speirs that the information be noted.

7. LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER MANAGERS CONFERENCE 2007
(Paul Wearne)

The Local Government Water Managers Conference 2007 will be held in Inverell from Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 August 2007. A copy of the program is attached for the information of Councillors. To facilitate registration and accommodation for Council's Delegate(s) an indication of those wishing to attend will be required at the meeting.

Recommendation

That Council determine delegates to attend the 2007 Local Government Water Managers Conference.

- 07/065 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Palmer that Cr. Bolte, Cr. Speirs and the General Manager represent Council at the 2007 Local Government Water Managers Conference.

**8. POTABLE WATER SUPPLY TO EYVONNE GOOLAGONG
CAWLEY PARK, BARELLAN** *(Paul Wearne)*

Narrandera Shire Council (NSC) has non potable water service connections to a park in Barellan and now requires a potable water supply to the park's public toilets. This matter is complicated by there being no potable water main in Yapunyah Street to allow NSC to be separately supplied. NSC has reached a mutually agreeable arrangement with the neighbouring Country Women's Association (CWA) offering to pay for all water metered if the potable supply required for the park can be provided via the CWA connection and has now requested Goldenfields approve this arrangement. It should be noted that both parties will consume minimal volumes of potable water.

The *Local Government (General) Regulations, 2005* allows Council to approve such arrangement however "*must ensure that each service pipe is connected to a water meter*". Policy 2004013 *Water Service Connections Supplying Multiple Premises* already defines 11 existing master /subtract metering arrangements.

Council has made NSC aware of the potential backflow issues that may arise from such a connection and has also sort clarification from NSC as to why potable water is required for this facility. A response has not yet been provided. However, to expedite the matter and to accommodate such arrangements, should the response from NSC be satisfactory, an amendment to Council Policy 2004013 is required. A copy of the policy highlighting the suggested amendments is attached.

Recommendation

1. That, subject to a satisfactory response being received, as an interim arrangement and recognising the limited volume of potable water likely to be consumed, Narrandera Shire Council's Eyvonne Goolagong Cawley Park amenities Block (account 68033) is authorized to be supplied with potable water from Barellan CWA (account 72334) on the condition that a subtract meter be installed immediately downstream from the off take to the amenities block. Such arrangements can continue until such time as a cost effective potable water supply becomes available in Yapunyah Street, Barellan that will allow an independent potable water supply.
2. That Council Policy *2004013 Water Service Connections Supplying Multiple Premises* be amended to include this additional master/subtract metering arrangement and to reflect the updated Local Government (General) Regulations.

07/066 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Speirs and McGregor that subject to a satisfactory response being received, as an interim arrangement and recognising the limited volume of potable water likely to be consumed, Narrandera Shire Council's Eyvonne Goolagong Cawley Park amenities Block (account 68033) is authorized to be supplied with potable water from Barellan CWA (account 72334) on the condition that a subtract meter be installed immediately downstream from the off take to the amenities block. Such arrangements can continue until such time as a cost effective potable water supply becomes available in Yapunyah Street, Barellan that will allow an independent potable water supply and that Council Policy *2004013 Water Service Connections Supplying Multiple Premises* be amended to include this additional master/subtract metering arrangement and to reflect the updated Local Government (General) Regulations.

9. STOCKINBINGAL TO TEMORA PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE & PROPOSED CONTRACT VARIATION
(Bill West)

Further to advice given to the April Council Meeting that the awarding of the contract to Templemichael Constructions Pty Ltd had been delayed until resolution of the Development Application Consent requirements and a landowner access problem, now the unprecedented Australia wide demand for ductile iron pipe has resulted in the delivery of the 375mm ductile iron cement lined pipe being delayed until early July. The Contractor has begun transporting plant to Stockinbingal and plans to commence potholing service locations and under-boring roads this week. Completion of the project has been revised and is now programmed for December 2007.

Supplementing this project is the new Temora Reservoir which is to be constructed at the termination of the pipe work in Nurraburra Street. Contract documents for the new Temora Reservoir are complete and calling for tenders will be advertised next week. This will allow awarding of the contract to be made at the August Council Meeting with anticipated completion of the reservoir in March/April 2008. To enable the new reservoir to augment the Temora reticulation, 2 kilometres of pipeline, of the same diameter and pressure rating as the pipe being installed by Templemichael Constructions Pty Ltd, is to be installed between the new and existing reservoirs. Being of the same size and

pressure rating enables the supply from Jugiong to continue when the new reservoir is taken off-line for periodic cleaning and maintenance.

Due to economies of scale, it is considered that the cost to install the 2kms of 375 DICL by either separate contract or day labour cannot better the unit cost for laying of 34kms under the Templemichael contract, therefore it is suggested that subject to satisfactory performance by Templemichael Constructions Pty Ltd in the preliminary stages of the current contract, that laying of the 2kms between the two reservoirs be included as a variation to the original 34kms pipe laying contract.

Recommendation

That subject to satisfactory contract performance by Templemichael Constructions Pty Ltd in the preliminary stages of the current contract, a design for the installation of 2 km of pipeline be prepared by GHD and submitted to Templemichael for pricing as a variation under the “Stockinbingal to Temora Pipeline Replacement Project” contract for Council’s consideration and approval.

- 07/067 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O’Brien and Speirs that subject to satisfactory contract performance by Templemichael Constructions Pty Ltd in the preliminary stages of the current contract, a design for the installation of 2 km of pipeline be prepared by GHD and submitted to Templemichael for pricing as a variation under the “Stockinbingal to Temora Pipeline Replacement Project” contract for Council’s consideration and approval.

10. FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS (*Paul Wearne*)

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

Recommendation

That the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Thursday 23 August 2007 at Cootamundra.

- 07/068 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Palmer that the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Thursday 23 August 2007 at Cootamundra, beginning at 1.00pm.

I. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr. Speirs sought clarification on matters pertaining to the Department of Local Government’s Guidelines on Closed Sessions of Council Meetings and the potential impact of changes to the State Records Act.

The General Manager replied that he would investigate and report back to Council.

J. CLOSED SESSION (*Pink pages*)

07/069 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Manchester that the Council meet in Closed Session.

1. TENANDRA PUMPING STATION *(Paul Wearne)*

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under section 10A (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(c) Information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposed to conduct) business.

07/070 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Edwards that whilst Council gives "in principal" support for the Marinna Energy project on the whole, it does not wish to proceed further with the land leasing proposal as submitted.

2. OUTSTANDING DEBTORS *(Peter Dwyer)*

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under section 10A (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(c) Information that would, if disclosed confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposed to conduct) business.

07/071 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Speirs and Palmer that Council accept Mr Hinchcliffe's offer to pay \$500 and that the balance of the account being \$834.66 be written off debtor no. 92 in Council's books.

2. OUTSTANDING DEBTORS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

(Paul Wearne)

07/072 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Speirs and Palmer that Council agree to accept payment of \$2,708.88 as full and final payment for the disputed account and that the balance of \$2,708.88 be written off Debtor Account No 93 in Council's books.

OPEN SESSION – 2.26pm

07/073 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Speirs and Manchester 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 2.48pm.
