

MINUTES for the MEETING of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICES on THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2008 starting at 1.02pm.

PRESENT

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

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

Cr. Bolte stated that it had been an honour to serve on Goldenfields Water, thanked Council for its support in the past and wished the new Council well.

A. APOLOGIES

Nil.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29 AUGUST 2008

08/089 The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 August 2008 having been circulated and read by the Members, were confirmed as amended on the motion of Crs. Palmer and Manchester.

Cr. Bolte vacated the Chair and the General Manager took the Chair for the election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON (Paul Wearne)

In accordance with section 391 of the Local Government Act (2001) the position of Chairperson becomes vacant at this meeting and an election is required to elect a person from within the members of the council to fill this position. The chairperson holds office for one (1) year.

Nominations for this position are required to be in writing, signed by two or more Councillors (one of whom may be the nominee), and also contain the consent of the nominee.

Appropriate nomination forms have been circulated to all Councillors with their Business Papers.

Recommendation

That nominations for the position of Chairperson be called and that if necessary, voting be by ordinary ballot.

08/090 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Manchester that nominations for the position of Chairperson be called and that if necessary, voting be by ordinary ballot.

A duly signed nomination form for the position of Chairperson was received from Cr. Speirs. There being no further nominations, Cr. Speirs was declared elected as Chairperson for the period until the September 2009 meeting.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON (*Paul Wearne*)

In accordance with the Local Government Act (2001), the position of Deputy Chairperson is currently vacant and an election is required to elect a person from within the members of the council to fill this position. Like the chairperson the deputy chairperson holds office for one (1) year.

Nominations for this position are required to be in writing, signed by two or more Councillors (one of whom may be the nominee), and also contain the consent of the nominee.

Appropriate nomination forms have been circulated to all Councillors with their Business Papers.

Recommendation

That nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson be called and that if necessary, voting be by ordinary ballot.

08/091 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and O'Brien that nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson be called and that if necessary, voting be by ordinary ballot.

A duly signed nomination form for the position of Deputy Chairperson was received from Cr. Manchester. There being no further nominations, Cr. Manchester was declared elected as Deputy Chairperson for the period until the September 2009 meeting.

Cr. Speirs occupied the Chair and thanked Council for its support and expressed his desire to see the good working relationships of the Board continue. He thanked Cr. Bolte for his contribution to Local Government and in particular Goldenfields Water and wished him and his family well for the future.

3. COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND ORGANISATIONS (*Paul Wearne*)

Representation by Elected Members of Council is required on the following Council Committees and regional organisations. Previously there has been one delegate and one alternate delegate elected to each of the five committees given that at times circumstances may arise when a "Councillor" delegate cannot attend and to ensure that elected member representation is present at all meetings the alternate can be invited to attend.

Occupational Health & Safety Committee: This committee consists of 8 members, 4 of which represent management and 4 who are elected from within the employees. Cr Manchester is the immediate past delegate and has represented the elected members as one of the “management” representatives Cr McGregor was the alternative. The LGSA Training Unit conducts training for new members from time to time usually at a regional level.

Meetings are held quarterly usually in the morning and usually in Temora although this committee has planned visits to other work sites within our area.

Consultative Committee: This committee consists of 8 members, 3 of which represent management and 5 who are elected from within the employees. To date Cr Speirs has represented the elected members as one of the “management” representatives with Cr Manchester as the alternative. The LGSA Training Unit conducts training for new members from time to time usually at a regional level.

Meetings are held bimonthly, usually in the early afternoon and usually in Temora. However as negotiations for a new Goldenfields Water County Council Industrial Instrument is in progress as a result of changes to Federal and State legislation, additional meetings may be required.

‘G’ Division of the Shires Association: Goldenfields is a voting member of this organisation and as such is required to have one delegate at each meeting, with the General Manager usually attending as an observer. Cr Macaulay is the immediate past delegate. There was no alternate delegate.

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC): Goldenfields is a non-voting member of this organisation and as such is able to have an observer at each meeting. The General Manager also usually attends as an observer. Cr Bolte was the immediate past delegate.

Meetings are held bimonthly, usually in the morning and usually in Wagga Wagga.

Murrumbidgee Region of the Murray Darling Association: Goldenfields is a voting member of this organisation and as such is required to have one delegate at each meeting, with the General Manager usually attending as an observer. Cr Edwards is the immediate past delegate with the General Manager being the alternate.

Meetings are held bimonthly, usually in the morning and in different towns within the Murrumbidgee Valley.

Recommendation

1. That the term for which delegates and alternate delegates to the abovementioned five (5) committees are elected be for the term of the Council, subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act (2001).
2. That nominations be independently called for the ten positions and if necessary voting be by ordinary ballot.

08/092 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and Manchester

1. That the term for which delegates and alternate delegates to the abovementioned five (5) committees are elected be for the term of the Council, subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act (2001).
2. That nominations be independently called for the ten positions and if necessary voting be by ordinary ballot.

Nominations were called and Councillors were elected to the following committees:

| Committee | Delegate | Alternate Delegate |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Occupational Health & Safety Committee | Cr. Manchester | Cr. McGregor |
| Staff Consultative Committee | Cr. Speirs | Cr. Manchester |
| 'G' Division of the Shires Association of NSW | Cr. Macaulay | Cr. O'Brien |
| Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) | Cr. Speirs | |
| Murrumbidgee Region of Murray Darling Association | Cr. Morris | General Manager |

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil.

D. CORRESPONDENCE

Coolamon Shire Council
(Received 25/09/08)

Seeking comment from property owners fronting Main Road 240 regarding the proposed name change to Ardlethan Road.

Recommendation

That Council advise Coolamon Shire Council it has no objections to the proposal.

08/093 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and McGregor that Council advise Coolamon Shire Council it has no objections to the proposal.

E. FINANCIAL REPORT (P. Dwyer)

1. CHEQUE WARRANT – AUGUST 2008 AND BANK RECONCILIATION

Warrant

| Fund | Voucher Numbers | \$ |
|-------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Water | Cheques 19111 – 19194 | |
| | EFT's 72002 – 72074 | |
| | Autopays 600269-600270 | \$1,019,413.89 |

Bank Reconciliation

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Opening Balance | \$ 106,164.96 |
| Deposits | \$1,003,783.27 |
| | <u>\$1,109,948.23</u> |
| Withdrawals | \$1,019,413.89 |
| Balance as at 31 August 2008 | <u>\$ 90,534.34</u> |

2. CHEQUE WARRANT – SEPTEMBER 2008 AND BANK RECONCILIATION

Warrant

| Fund | Voucher Numbers | \$ |
|-------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Water | Cheques 19195 – 19279 | |
| | EFT's 72075 – 72155 | |
| | Autopays 600271-600272 | \$1,458,887.32 |

Bank Reconciliation

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Opening Balance | \$ 90,534.34 |
| Deposits | \$1,526,776.38 |
| | <u>\$1,617,310.72</u> |
| Withdrawals | \$1,458,887.32 |
| Balance as at 30 September 2008 | <u>\$ 158,423.40</u> |

3. REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS

Listed below are Council's Investments as at 31 August 2008

| Financial Institution | Face Value | Annualised Interest Rate % |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| NSW Treasury – Cash Facility | \$6,414,641.53 | 8.09 |
| Local Govt Financial Services – FOCF | \$5,229,284.19 | 8.33 |
| Local Govt Financial Services – 12m Cash | \$1,508,147.13 | 5.60 |
| Commonwealth Bank – At Call | \$1,104,638.37 | 7.20 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 19.9.08-199804 | \$500,000.00 | 7.97 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 19.9.08-199791 | \$1,120,000.00 | 7.70 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 3.10.08-198954 | \$500,000.00 | 8.05 |
| CBA Term Deposit due 27.10.08 | \$750,000.00 | 7.93 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 7.11.08-199928 | \$500,000.00 | 7.52 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 18.11.08-200020 | \$855,000.00 | 7.55 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 21.5.09-199299 | \$1,300,000.00 | 8.02 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 5.6.09-199460 | \$500,000.00 | 8.45 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 17.7.09-199790 | \$1,000,000.00 | 8.40 |
| TOTAL: | \$21,281,711.22 | |

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 2008

The above investments include the following restricted assets:

| Purpose | Amount |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Plant and vehicle replacement | \$870,000 |
| Employees leave entitlements | \$1,383,000 |
| Sales fluctuation | \$1,558,000 |
| Infrastructure replacement | \$15,381,000 |
| Total: | \$19,192,000 |

4. REPORT OF COUNCIL INVESTMENTS

Listed below are Council's Investments as at 30 September 2008

| Financial Institution | Face Value | Annualised Interest Rate % |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| NSW Treasury – Cash Facility | \$6,452,740.08 | 7.23 |
| Local Govt Financial Services – FOCF | \$5,261,943.97 | 7.60 |
| Local Govt Financial Services – 12m Cash | \$1,508,097.04 | -0.04 |
| Commonwealth Bank – At Call | \$904,638.37 | 6.95 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 3.10.08-198954 | \$500,000.00 | 8.05 |
| CBA Term Deposit due 27.10.08 | \$750,000.00 | 7.93 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 7.11.08-199928 | \$500,000.00 | 7.52 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 18.11.08- 200020 | \$855,000.00 | 7.55 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 19.12.08- 200502 | \$500,000.00 | 7.73 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 20.3.09-200503 | \$558,000.00 | 7.73 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 21.5.09-199299 | \$1,300,000.00 | 8.02 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 5.6.09-199460 | \$500,000.00 | 8.45 |
| LGFS Term Deposit due 17.7.09 – 199790 | \$1,000,000.00 | 8.40 |
| TOTAL: | \$20,590,419.46 | |

The above investments include the following restricted assets:

| Purpose | Amount |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Plant and vehicle replacement | \$870,000 |
| Employees leave entitlements | \$1,383,000 |
| Sales fluctuation | \$1,558,000 |
| Infrastructure replacement | \$15,381,000 |
| Total: | \$19,192,000 |

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 E4 be noted.

08/094 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and O'Brien that the information in respect of items E1 to E4 be noted.

5. OUTSTANDING DEBTORS

The balances outstanding as at 2 September 2008 were:

| | Arrears | Interest | Current | Total |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Access Charges | 28,954 | 6,506 | 78,852 | 114,312 |
| Consumption Charges | 56,729 | 21,256 | 139,934 | 217,919 |
| Deferred Headworks | | | 103,100 | 103,100 |
| TOTAL: | 85,683 | 27,762 | 321,886 | 435,331 |
| | | | | |
| Overpayments | | | | 107,345 |

Therefore the breakdown can be summarised as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Total outstanding | \$ 435,331 |
| <i>Less credit balances</i> | -107,345 |
| <i>Less bulk accounts</i> | -109,633 |
| <i>Less deferred h/wks</i> | <u>-103,100</u> |
| Nett balance | \$ 115,253 owed by customers |

The balances outstanding as at 6 October 2008 were:

| | Arrears | Interest | Current | Total |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Access Charges | 47,210 | 7,258 | 470,483 | 524,951 |
| Consumption Charges | 86,172 | 22,895 | 840,123 | 949,190 |
| Deferred Headworks | | | 97,829 | 97,829 |
| TOTAL: | 133,382 | 30,153 | 1,408,435 | 1,571,970 |
| | | | | |
| Overpayments | | | | 61,624 |

The breakdown of the above can be summarised as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total outstanding | \$1,571,970 |
| <i>Less credit balances</i> | -61,624 |
| <i>Less deferred h/wks</i> | <u>-97,829</u> |
| Nett balance | \$1,412,517 owed by customers |

The September quarter customer accounts totalling \$1,400,476.80 were posted on October 3 and are due for payment on October 27.

Recommendation

That the report on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

08/095 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer that the report on outstanding debtors be received and noted.

6. QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

The Quarterly Budget Review for the period ending 30 September 2008 is attached (yellow pages) for the consideration of Council.

Details of the main variations are as follows:

Revenue

At this stage the only change is a revised figure for mains contributions - \$1,320. User charges may be reviewed with the next review depending on the continued restrictions and weather conditions.

Expenditure

At this stage no revisions are required in this area.

Capital

The votes in this section have been revised in line with the report presented to Council's August meeting. The revised budget (both upwards and downwards) can be summarised as follows:-

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Capital Works Program (as adopted 2008/09 Man. Plan) | \$10,337,789 |
| Plus Amounts carried forward from 2007/08 Program | 1,962,518 |
| Revised Budget as per September Quarterly Budget Review | \$12,300,307 |

The following changes are proposed to the operating budget:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Adopted operating budget (deficit) | \$-376,942 |
| Revision at 30 September 2008 – surplus | \$1,320 |
| Revised result – 30 June 2009 – anticipated deficit | -\$375,622 |

At this stage there are no major areas of concern and the review indicates that Council's level of available working capital at the years end is satisfactory.

Recommendation

That the quarterly budget review report as at 30 September 2008 be noted and that Council adopt the variations as listed.

08/096 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Macaulay that the quarterly budget review as at 30 September 2008 be noted and that Council adopt the variations as listed.

7. AUDIT REPORT - 2007/2008 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Following completion of the audit of the of last year's financial statements, Council's auditor Mr Graham Bradley principal of Auswild & Co has submitted his statutory report to Council.

The report does not disclose any major areas of concern and indicates that in the auditor's opinion Council is in a sound financial position. He does, however, mention the declining revenue which Council needs to address. A copy of the auditor's report is included with the business paper (green pages).

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 2008

The financial reports were received by the Department of Local Government on 15 September 2008, with Council being the first water County Council in the State to lodge its return. No changes were made to the figures presented to Council's August meeting as a result of the audit.

The required advertisement was placed in the Southern Weekly magazine for the week commencing 29 September and called for submissions on the financial statements and reports, closing on 30 October 2008. Any submissions received will be considered at the next meeting of Council.

The Auditor's report provides further information on the summary below. Mr Bradley will be unable to attend this meeting to formally present his report, however, has indicated that he will be able to attend a future meeting of Council to discuss his report. A full copy of the Financial Reports can be made available to any Councillor upon request.

The summary report as advertised shows:

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

For the year ending 30th June, 2008

| | 2008 (\$'000) | 2007 (\$'000) |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <u>Income Statement</u> | | |
| Total income from continuing operations | 12,392 | 14,462 |
| Total expenses from continuing operations | 12,945 | 12,734 |
| Operating result from continuing operations | (553) | 1,728 |
| Net operating result before capital grants & contributions | (1,022) | 1,027 |
| <u>Balance Sheet</u> | | |
| Total current assets | 23,582 | 29,880 |
| Total current liabilities | 2,615 | 2,317 |
| Total non-current assets | 212,45 | 185,18 |
| | 5 | 0 |
| Total non-current liabilities | 44 | 50 |
| Total equity | 233,37 | 212,69 |
| | 8 | 3 |
| <u>Other Financial Information</u> | | |
| Current ratio | 9.02:1 | 12.90:1 |
| Unrestricted current ratio | 14.78:1 | 20.82:1 |
| Debt service ratio | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Annual charges coverage ratio | 24.7% | 21.1% |
| Annual charges outstanding percentage | 16.3% | 17.0% |

Recommendation

1. That Council note the action taken in advertising the summary.
2. That Council adopt the 2007/2008 Financial Statements and Auditors Report as presented.

08/097 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and O'Brien

1. That Council note the action taken in advertising the summary.

2. That Council adopt the 2007/2008 Financial Statements and Auditors Report as presented.

F. WORKS REPORT *(Nick Nasser)*
AUGUST 2008

1. WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS

| DATE | TIME | | LOCATION | PIPE DIAMETER | AFFECTED CONSUMERS | ESTIMATED LOSS (KI) | REASON |
|----------|------|-------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | Off | On | | | | | |
| 5/08/08 | - | - | Temora Road, Cootamundra | 375 | - | 5 | Joint failure |
| 6/08/08 | - | - | Barellan Road, South Weethalle | - | - | 1 | Split pipe |
| 7/08/08 | - | - | Pinkerton Road, Cootamundra | 375 | - | 5 | Joint failure |
| 7/08/08 | - | - | Dirnaseer Road, Cootamundra | 100 | - | 2 | Split pipe |
| 7/08/08 | - | - | Bauloora - Cowangs | 375 | - | 5 | Joint failure |
| 8/08/08 | - | - | 51 Jellicoe Street, Temora | 100 | - | 1 | Split pipe |
| 10/08/08 | 8.30 | 12.00 | Ardlethan Road, Coolamon | 150 | - | 50 | Joint failure |
| 13/08/08 | - | - | Wyalong Road, Ungarie | 150 | - | 55 | Split pipe |
| 14/08/08 | - | - | Naradhan Road, Gubbatta | 100 | - | 3 | Joint failure |
| 14/08/08 | - | - | Jugiong Road, Cootamundra | 375 | - | 15 | Hole in pipe |
| 15/08/08 | 1.00 | 3.30 | Old Sydney Road, Bethungra | 150 | 3 | 20 | Split pipe |
| 18/08/08 | - | - | Olympic Way, Frampton | 100 | - | 5 | Split pipe |
| 18/08/08 | 7.00 | 12.00 | Millwood Road, Coolamon | 100 | 1 | 150 | Split pipe |
| 19/08/08 | - | - | Park Lane, Junee | 100 | - | 10 | Split pipe |
| 19/08/08 | - | - | Temora Road, Cootamundra | 375 | - | 10 | Joint failure |
| 20/08/08 | - | - | Stockinbingal Road, Cootamundra | 375 | - | 20 | Joint failure |
| 20/08/08 | - | - | Malebo Range | 80 | - | 15 | Split pipe |
| 20/08/08 | - | - | Ganmain | 100 | - | 10 | Joint failure |
| 21/08/08 | - | - | Old Sydney Road, Junee | 150 | - | 5 | Split pipe |
| 22/08/08 | 9.30 | 7.00 | Temora Road, | 375 | 51 | 50 | Hole in pipe |

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 2008

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|----------------------------|-----|----|-----|---------------|
| | | | Cootamundra | | | | |
| 26/08/08 | - | - | Bauloora – Cootamundra | 375 | - | 15 | Joint failure |
| 28/08/08 | - | - | Bauloora – Cootamundra | 375 | - | 10 | Joint failure |
| 28/08/08 | - | - | Jugiong Road, Cootamundra | 375 | - | 10 | Joint failure |
| 28/08/08 | 8.00 | 1.00 | Coursing Park Road, Junee | 150 | 6 | 50 | Split pipe |
| 28/08/08 | 7.00 | 12.00 | Malebo Range | 100 | 1 | 100 | Split pipe |
| 29/08/08 | - | - | Bauloora – Cootamundra | 375 | - | 4 | Joint failure |
| 29/08/08 | - | - | Kamarah | 100 | - | 10 | Split pipe |
| 29/08/08 | 1.30 | 3.30 | North Street, West Wyalong | 80 | 10 | 1 | Hole in pipe |
| 29/08/08 | - | - | Trunk Main, Barmedman | 300 | - | 10 | Joint failure |
| 31/08/08 | 11.00 | 7.00 | Wantabadgery | 300 | 20 | 10 | Joint failure |

2. COMPLAINTS

Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

Nil.

Dirty Water – Other

7/08/08 61 Jellico Street, Temora.
 28/08/08 Forrest Street, Temora.
 28/08/08 23 Beattie Street, Temora.

Other Problems:

5/08/08 41 Robertson Street, Barmedman – Foul tasting water.

A total of 29 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of August.

3. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE

The following significant works were undertaken in August 2008:-

- Overhaul Lonsdales Lane pump.
- Fit new motor to No. 1 pump Eurollie Road pump station.
- Remove No.2 pump Garoolgan for service.
- Overhaul No. 2 soda ash pump at Jugiong.
- Continue overhaul work on Junee Reefs booster pump.
- Completed Brobenah to Barellan routine valve maintenance.
- Replaced six (6) double air valves on Tenandra line.
- Continued valve maintenance on Young line.
- Commenced Temora East Reservoir cut-in at Temora pump station.

- Cut-in new main in Lewis Street, Coolamon.
- Cut-in new main along Kitchener Road, Temora.
- Commenced Barellan main street upgrade.

G. WORKS REPORT (Nick Nasser)
SEPTEMBER 2008

1. WATER LOSSES & MAINS REPAIRS

| DATE | TIME | | LOCATION | PIPE DIAMETER | AFFECTED CONSUMERS | ESTIMATED LOSS (KI) | REASON |
|----------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | Off | On | | | | | |
| 8/09/08 | - | - | Cowangs – Bauloora | 375 | - | 10 | Joint failure |
| 8/09/08 | - | - | Jugiong Road, Cootamundra | 375 | - | 5 | Joint failure |
| 10/09/08 | - | - | Olympic Way, Cootamundra | 100 | - | 2 | Split pipe |
| 10/09/08 | - | - | Cowangs | 375 | - | 5 | Joint failure |
| 12/09/08 | - | - | Trunk Main, Wyalong | 300 | - | 50 | Hole in pipe |
| 13/09/08 | 9.30 | 2.30 | Mirrool | 100 | 6 | 50 | Split pipe |
| 16/09/08 | 8.00 | 2.30 | Airport, Temora | 150 | 6 | 100 | Split pipe |
| 17/09/08 | 2.00 | 3.30 | Railway Road, West Wyalong | 100 | 15 | 5 | Other |
| 18/09/08 | - | - | Trunk Main, Barmedman | 300 | - | 10 | Joint failure |
| 22/09/08 | - | - | Trunk Main, Barmedman | 300 | - | 50 | Joint failure |
| 25/09/08 | - | - | Barmedman | 100 | - | 15 | Hole in pipe |
| 26/09/08 | 9.30 | 2.00 | Thanowring Road, Temora | 250 | 50 | 20 | Joint failure |
| 29/09/08 | 9.30 | 1.30 | Beckom – Barellan | 150 | 70 | 5 | Joint failure |
| 29/09/08 | - | - | Tallimba | 150 | - | 12 | Split pipe |
| 29/09/08 | 10.00 | 12.30 | Newell Highway, Beckom | 150 | - | 5 | Joint failure |

2. COMPLAINTS

Water Quality

Dirty Water – Junee

Nil.

Dirty Water – Other

Nil.

Other Problems:

Nil.

A total of 30 service difficulty and fault reports were received for the month of September.

3. CONSTRUCTION & MAJOR MAINTENANCE

The following significant works were undertaken in September 2008:-

- Completed and re-installed overhaul pump and motor for Junee Reefs.
- No.2 pump at Mt Daylight Pump Station removed for overhaul.
- Removed No. 1 pump and motor at Rosehill due to noise – overhaul underway.
- Removed No. 2 pump and motor at Hannan pump station for overhaul.
- Removed No. 2 pump at Ganmain for overhaul.
- Complete and cut-in new section in Barellan Main Street.
- Investigation and Design Stage 1 for Old Sydney Road upgrade completed.
- Re-constructed surge tank on Young line at Began Began.
- Completed meter reading.
- Replaced twelve (12) double air valves on Frampton line.
- Commenced swabbing at Bore mains.

Recommendation

That the information contained in items F1-3 and G1-3 be noted.

08/098 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and McGregor that the information contained in items F1-3 and G1-3 be noted.

H. OTHER REPORTS

1. SETTING OF MEETING DATES (*Paul Wearne*)

Section 396 of the Local Government Act stipulates that county councils must meet at least 4 times each year. The previous practice of Goldenfields has been for meetings to be held on the fourth Thursday every two (2) months (i.e. February, April, June, August, October and December). These dates and the venue have, in the past, been approved by resolution of Council at the preceding meeting. Previously the venue for meetings alternated between Council's offices in Temora and a venue within one of the constituent council areas although recently most have been held in Temora. If additional meetings are required between these times to conduct the business of Council these have, in the past, been approved by resolution of Council at the preceding meeting. The provisions of the Local Government Act relating to the calling of an extraordinary meeting of council can still be invoked if required.

Section 9(1) of the Local Government Act requires Council to give public notice of the time and place of its meetings. To comply with this requirement it is suggested that the meeting dates and venue for the remainder of the current financial year be set now and that public notice of them be given. It is requested that Council give consideration as to whether the present practice of rotating the meeting venue is to be continued or whether they are held at the Temora office.

Recommendation

That as a minimum, Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on the following dates during the 2008/09 year:-

- Thursday, 27 November 2008 at Goldenfields' Temora Office commencing at 1.00pm
- Friday, 19 December 2008 at Goldenfields' Temora Office commencing at 10.00am – followed by the Annual End of Year Staff Party
- Thursday, 26 February 2009 at Jugiong Filtration Plant commencing at 1.00pm
- Thursday 23 April 2009 at Junee Shire Council Chambers commencing at 1.00pm
- Thursday 25 June 2009 at Goldenfields' Temora Office commencing at 1.00pm

08/099 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and McGregor that as a minimum, Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on the following dates during the 2008/09 year:-

- Tuesday, 25 November 2008 at Goldenfields' Temora Office commencing at 1.00pm
- Friday, 19 December 2008 at Goldenfields' Temora Office commencing at 10.00am – followed by the Annual End of Year Staff Party
- Thursday, 26 February 2009 at Jugiong Filtration Plant commencing at 1.00pm
- Thursday 23 April 2009 at Goldenfields' Temora Office commencing at 1.00pm

- Thursday 25 June 2009 at Goldenfields' Temora Office commencing at 1.00pm

2. DELIVER OF BUSINESS PAPERS (*Paul Wearne*)

It has been the past practice of Council that Business Papers for Ordinary Meetings of Council are “hand delivered” by staff, usually on the Thursday or Friday preceding the meeting. Given the distances between the residential and/or business address of Councillors this is an expensive exercise in both time and resources. It is suggested that a trial be undertaken using the postal services where papers are mailed from Temora seven days prior to the meeting date. This should ensure that papers are received by Councillors on the following Monday or Tuesday at the latest. This procedure could be supplemented by the sending of an electronic version, upon request, to those Councillors who have secure access to internet services.

Recommendation

That the delivery of Meeting Agendas and Business Papers to Councillors be trialled for a period of six (6) months utilising the services of Australia Post and that electronic version of same be also emailed to Councillors who request it.

08/100 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and O'Brien that the delivery of Meeting Agendas and Business Papers to Councillors be trialled for a period of six (6) months utilising the services of Australia Post and that electronic version of same be also emailed to Councillors who request it.

3. REVIEW OF COUNCIL CODES AND POLICIES (*Paul Wearne*)

Council has statutory obligations to review certain matters during the first twelve months of office. It is suggested that Council consider some at each meeting over the ensuing year until the list is exhausted. To commence this process, the following are submitted for Council's consideration:

Code of Conduct

Section 440 of the Local Government Act 2001 requires councils to prepare and adopt a code of conduct to be observed by Councillors and staff. The Minister has prepared a model code of conduct that was adopted by the previous Council in June of this year (Minute 08/066).

Councils are required to either adopt the Model Code as a minimum or, if deciding not to, then the Model Code applies by default. It is suggested that Council adopt the Model Code of Conduct. A copy of the Model Code of Conduct will be tabled at the meeting or can be supplied to councillors on request.

Code of Meeting Practice

Section 360 of the Local Government Act 2001 allows councils to prepare and adopt a Code of Meeting Practice to be observed by Councillors and staff. It is suggested that Council adopt the present Code of Meeting Practice as a Draft, place it on public display and formally adopt it at a subsequent meeting after considering any submissions it may receive. A copy of the Code of Meeting

Practice will be tabled at the meeting or can be supplied to councillors on request.

Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors

Section 252 of the Local Government Act 2001 requires councils to prepare and adopt a Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy within five months of the end of each year. It is suggested that Council adopt the current Policy as a Draft, place it on public display and formally adopt it at a subsequent meeting after considering any submissions it may receive. A copy of the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy will be tabled at the meeting or can be supplied to councillors on request.

Delegations of Authority

Section 380 of the Local Government Act 2001 requires Council to review its delegations of authority during its first twelve months of office. Minute 04/024 reads:-

“That, with the exception of the dot point items listed in Section 377 of the Local Government Act (and repeated above), which are specifically reserved to the Council for determination, and until such time as this delegation is revoked, suspended or varied in any way, Council delegate to Mr. Paul Mervyn Wearne, for such time as he holds the position of General Manager of the Council, all of the functions of the Council.”

The exceptions referred to within the resolution are reproduced below for the information of Council.

Exceptions Pursuant to Section 377

- the appointment of a general manager
- the making of a rate
- a determination under section 549 as to the levying of a rate
- the making of charge
- the fixing of a fee
- the borrowing of money
- the voting of money for expenditure on its works, services or operations
- the compulsory acquisition, purchase, sale, exchange or surrender of any land or other property (but not including the sale of items of plant or equipment)
- the acceptance of tenders which are required under this Act to be invited by the council
- the adoption of management plan
- the adoption of a financial statement included in an annual financial report
- the decision to classify or reclassify public land under Division 1 of Part 2 of Chapter 6
- the fixing of an amount or rate for the carrying out by the council of work on private land
- a decision to carry out work on private land for an amount that is less than the amount or rate fixed by the council for the carrying out of such work
- the review of determination made by the council, and not by a delegate of the council, of an application for approval
- the power of the council to authorise the use of reasonable force for the purpose of gaining entry to premises under section 194

- a decision under section 356 to contribute money or otherwise grant financial assistance to persons
- the power of the council under section 455 in relation to attendance at meetings
- the making of an application, or the giving of a notice, to the Governor or Minister
- the power of delegation
- any function under this or any other Act that is expressly required to be exercised by resolution of the council

Minute 04/024 has worked effectively to date and if Council is prepared to delegate all powers other than those which it must retain to itself, then the recommendation following would appear to be appropriate.

Should, however, that not be Council's wish, the matter could be expected to require significant further discussion followed by submission of a far more detailed schedule for consideration at a future meeting. Whilst such action would not be inappropriate, the lack of any delegation of authority in the interim period will certainly create operational difficulties.

Sub delegation of authority from the General Manager to particular staff is currently being reviewed and will be placed before Council at a future meeting for consideration.

Recommendation

1. That Council adopt the Model Code of Conduct.
2. That Council adopt the Draft Code of Meeting Practice and Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy.
3. That in accordance with Sections 361 and 253 of the Local Government Act (2001) the Draft Code of Meeting Practice and Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy be placed on public display from Monday 27 October 2008 until Monday 24 November 2008.
4. That submissions to the Draft Code of Meeting Practice and Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy be received up until Monday 24 November 2008 with any received to be considered by Council at its next meeting on Thursday 27 November 2008.
5. That, with the exception of the dot point items listed in Section 377 of the Local Government Act, which are specifically reserved to the Council for determination, and until such time as this delegation is revoked, suspended or varied in any way, Council delegate to Mr. Paul Mervyn Wearne, for such time as he holds the position of General Manager of the Council and during the term of this Council, all of the functions of the Council.

08/101 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer

1. That Council adopt the Model Code of Conduct.
2. That Council adopt the Draft Code of Meeting Practice and Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy.

3. That in accordance with Sections 361 and 253 of the Local Government Act (2001) the Draft Code of Meeting Practice and Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy be placed on public display from Monday 27 October 2008 until Monday 24 November 2008.
4. That submissions to the Draft Code of Meeting Practice and Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Services to Councillors Policy be received up until Monday 24 November 2008 with any received to be considered by Council at its next meeting on Thursday 27 November 2008.
5. That, with the exception of the dot point items listed in Section 377 of the Local Government Act, which are specifically reserved to the Council for determination, and until such time as this delegation is revoked, suspended or varied in any way, Council delegate to Mr. Paul Mervyn Wearne, for such time as he holds the position of General Manager of the Council and during the term of this Council, all of the functions of the Council.

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

Attached for the information of Councillors is the Capital Works Progress Reports for the period ending 30 September 2008.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

08/102 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Manchester that the information be noted.

5. CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2008-09 (*Paul Wearne*)

Included in the Business Paper are the water production graphs for the five sources and the three bulk councils to the end of September 2008. Table 1 below provide more detail.

Water allocations in the Murrumbidgee Valley for the 2008/09 water year were set by the NSW Department of Water and Energy (DWE), effective from 1 July 2008, as follows:-

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Surface Water Extractions | 50% of Entitlement |
| Ground Water Extractions | 100% of Entitlement |

Consumption continues to be monitored closely on a weekly basis and under delegated authority the Chairman and General Manager varied the level of restrictions effective from Friday 26 September 2008 to:-

| | |
|--|---------|
| Jugiong, Mt Daylight and Hyland's Bridge schemes | Level 3 |
| Oura and Mt Arthur schemes | Level C |

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DWE announced on 1 October 2008 that the allocation for Local Water Utilities in the Murrumbidgee Valley with surface water extraction licenses is increased to 80% of entitlement. This has been factored into Table 1.

Table 1 - Period - 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008

| Source | YTD Consumption | YTD Maximum Allocation | Revised YTD Maximum Allocation | Percentage of Revised Allocation |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jugiong | 817.300 | 945 | 756.000 | 108.11% |
| Oura | 731.694 | 944 | 944.000 | 77.51% |
| Mt Arthur | 79.386 | 98 | 98.000 | 81.01% |
| Mt Daylight | | 43 | 43.000 | |
| Hylands Bridge | 16.586 | 16 | 12.800 | 129.58% |
| Total All Sources | | 2,046 | 1,853.800 | |
| Cootamundra | 147.225 | 254 | 203.200 | 72.45% |
| Harden * | 89.296 | 190 | 152.000 | 58.75% |
| Young | 301.017 | 356 | 284.800 | 105.69% |

NB:

YTD Consumption for Harden does not include Harden Minor Consumers.

The latest communiqué from DWE is due for release on 15 October and will be included in the business paper mail out for the information of Councillors.

As stated above, consumption continues to be closely monitored and to allow for decisive action to be taken it is suggested that Council endorse the delegation of authority to the General Manager in consultation with the Chairman to impose water restrictions as required.

Recommendation

That Council endorse the delegation of authority to the General Manager in consultation with the Chairman to impose water restrictions as required.

08/103 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Macaulay that the Supplementary Report be considered.

5. CRITICAL WATER AVAILABILITY FOR 2008-09 – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT (Paul Wearne)

Since the production of the Business Paper the latest communiqué from DWE was issued on 15 October with a copy included in the business paper mail out for the information of Councillors. This communiqué advised that the allocation for Town Water Supplies was increased from 80% to 95%. This change has been

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incorporated into Table 2 below which shows consumption to 30 September 2008.

Table 1 - Period - 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008

| Source | YTD Consumption | YTD Maximum Allocation | Revised YTD Maximum Allocation | Percentage of Revised Allocation |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jugiong | 817.300 | 945 | 897.750 | 91.03% |
| Oura | 731.694 | 944 | 944.000 | 77.51% |
| Mt Arthur | 79.386 | 98 | 98.000 | 81.01% |
| Mt Daylight | 40.320 | 43 | 43.000 | 93.76% |
| Hyland's Bridge | 16.586 | 16 | 15.200 | 109.11% |
| Total All Sources | 1685.286 | 2,046 | 1997.950 | 84.35% |
| Cootamundra | 147.225 | 254 | 241.300 | 61.01% |
| Harden * | 89.296 | 190 | 180.500 | 49.47% |
| Young | 301.017 | 356 | 338.200 | 89.00% |

NB:

YTD Consumption for Harden does not include Harden Minor Consumers.

From the above table it is evident that with the exception of the Hyland's Bridge system, consumption levels are within current allocations. It is therefore suggested that Council consider imposing the following levels of restriction effective from 1 November 2008 and that this information be disseminated through media outlets during the preceding week.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Oura and Mt Arthur schemes | Level C |
| Jugiong and Mt Daylight schemes | Level 1 |
| Hyland's Bridge scheme | Level 2 |

Whilst this may create a slight element of confusion between our customers dependent on which scheme they are supplied from, it does demonstrate that Council is acting responsibly regarding the level of restriction being imposed on each water source and that we are taking into consideration consumption patterns when deciding on restriction levels.

The Hyland's Bridge scheme continues to be under pressure and with the concurrence of Council it is suggested that approaches be made to Narrandera Shire Council with the view to put in place similar arrangements to last year where up to 100ML of Narrandera Shire Council's allocation be transferred to the Hyland's Bridge scheme for the benefit of customers supplied by that system. Should Narrandera Shire Council agree to such arrangements then the level of restriction imposed on customers served by the scheme could be reduced slightly to Level 1.

Recommendation

1. That Council endorse the imposition of the levels of restrictions detailed within the above report.
2. That the General Manager enter into discussions with Narrandera Shire Council in an effort to secure a transfer of 100ML of allocation to the Hyland's Bridge scheme.
3. That Council endorse the delegation of authority to the General Manager in consultation with the Chairman to impose water restrictions as required.

08/104 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Macaulay

1. That Council endorse the imposition of the levels of restrictions detailed within the above report.
2. That the General Manager enter into discussions with Narrandera Shire Council in an effort to secure a transfer of 100ML of allocation to the Hyland's Bridge scheme.
3. That Council endorse the delegation of authority to the General Manager in consultation with the Chairman to impose water restrictions as required.

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

Council will be aware of the ongoing lack of progress from the Federal Government in relations to Industrial Relations and in particular the Workplace Relations Act 1996. Recent advice from the Local Government & Shires Association of NSW (LGSA) has confirmed that the ultimate outcome is still unknown which leaves the position of Goldenfields' industrial instrument unclear as well.

Presently the Goldenfields Enterprise Award 2004 is a Preserved Collective State Agreement (PCSA) and as such is preserved in its current form until 31 December 2009. Council, through the Industrial Instrument Working Party, the Staff Consultative Committee and with the assistance of LGSA's Local Government Employment Solutions has been reviewing the terms, conditions, organisational structure, salary system, position descriptions and skills assessment criteria for the entire organisation. It is anticipated that this process will progress to the stage where an in-depth report (and draft document) can be considered by Council prior to the end of this calendar year. It is also hoped that some developments from the Federal Government will occur during this time.

Taking into consideration the present uncertainty of which "arena" Goldenfields' future industrial instrument will be formally registered in, there is an expectation by staff that some form of "interim wages increase" will be forthcoming and will apply until such time as Government has determined its position thus allowing Goldenfields to "register" its industrial instrument in the appropriate jurisdiction. The LGSA have advised that an increase of 3.2% will apply to the Local Government (State) Award effective from the first full pay period on or after 1 November 2008 and it would be appropriate for Goldenfields to apply at least the same percentage increase.

Previous reports to Council have indicated Managements position in relation to the level of remuneration that is applicable to the organisation relative to the Local Government (State) Award and it is therefore recommended that an interim wage increase slightly higher than the industry standard should be applied.

Recommendation

That Council adopt an interim wage increase of 4% to all non-contracted employees effective from the first full pay period on or after 1 November 2008.

- 08/105 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and McGregor that Council adopt an interim wage increase of 4% to all non-contracted employees effective from the first full pay period on or after 1 November 2008.

7. TRAINING/LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT PLAN - 2008/2009
(Tony Goodyer)

A Draft Training/Learning & Development Plan for the 2008/09 year has been prepared. The document details Council's commitment to staff training during this period and requires formal adoption, subject to any amendment deemed necessary by Council. A copy will be tabled at the meeting.

Recommendation

That the 2008/09 Draft Training/Learning & Development Plan as tabled be adopted.

- 08/106 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Palmer that the 2008/09 Draft Training/Learning & Development Plan as tabled be adopted.

8. STAFF PICNIC DAY *(Paul Wearne)*

In accordance with Council's Preserved Collective State Agreement (PCSA) it was requested by the Local Delegate of the United Services Union that the Union Picnic Day be held on Friday 3 October 2008. As approximately 61% of staff members are non-union members, the availability of staff on that day was adequate to keep all functional areas operational.

Union members that are rostered "on call", as Duty Officers or required to work will be credited with one (1) day of leave as per Award conditions.

Information from the Local Government & Shires Association contained in Item 8 of Local Government Weekly 05/06 states in part:-

"It is the Associations' view that discriminating against a person by restricting access to benefits under an industrial instrument because they are or are not members of a union may offend the Act's [Workplace Relations Act 1996] freedom of association provisions and such action will potentially expose councils to penalties. Consequently, councils are advised to extend the award holiday to all employees regardless of their union membership."

After consultation with the Chairman and to maintain continuation of service on that day, it was decided that non union members who would normally work on that day be required to work and they be credited with one (1) day of leave. It has also been decided that approval be granted for the Union Picnic day to be held on

Friday 3 October 2008 and that employees who work on that day be credited with one (1) day of leave as per PCSA conditions.

Recommendation

That the actions of the Chairman and General Manager be endorsed.

08/107 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Macaulay and Manchester that the actions of the Chairman and General Manager be endorsed.

9. OFFICE CLOSURE (*Paul Wearne*)

For the past four years Council has closed its Temora office during the Christmas/New Year period. Closing the office would give office staff an opportunity to take leave with minimal disruptions to our operations. Naturally, operations staff would still be rostered on call to attend operational issues (water breaks and breakdowns) and if a major emergency arose that would require opening of the office then staff could be recalled to affect this.

Previously there has only been three (3) business days affected during the period as public holidays fall on 25th & 26th December and 1st January. However with Christmas Day and New Years Day falling on a Thursday this year, it is suggested that the closure be extended to include Friday 2nd January 2009.

Closure of the office during this period means that the office would be shut from close of business on Wednesday 24th December 2008 and re-open on Monday 5th January, 2009.

Customers are still able to pay their accounts through the Australia Post facilities during this time. Closure of the office would be advertised during December.

Recommendation

That Council's office in Temora be closed from 29th December, 2008 to 2nd January, 2009 inclusive.

08/108 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and O'Brien that Council's office in Temora be closed from 29th December, 2008 to 2nd January, 2009 inclusive.

10. CHRISTMAS PARTY (*Paul Wearne*)

In previous years Council has hosted a Christmas Party for staff. Last year a function was held at the Temora Bowling Club after the December Council meeting to which Councillors, staff and their partners were invited. Council provided all refreshments including drinks which were restricted to beer, wine and soft drinks. Anyone wishing to drink spirits did so at their own cost. A budgeted amount was set by Council and, if and when exhausted, individuals became responsible for their own. The event was for a set period of time after which Council "disassociated" itself from any ongoing activities. Some of the benefits of such an event included promoting corporate unity, acknowledging the efforts of staff (and indirectly their partners) over the proceeding year and having a "degree of control" over the event. Assistance with transportation for

employees based outside of Temora was also provided. From all reports an enjoyable time was had by all.

Recommendation

1. That Council host a Christmas Party on Friday 19 December 2008 from 1.00pm to 5.00pm at the Temora Bowling Club to which Councillors, staff and their respective partners be invited.
2. That Council assist with the provision of transportation for employees based outside Temora.
3. That Council allocates \$2,500 for the event.

08/109 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer

1. That Council host a Christmas Party on Friday 19 December 2008 from 1.00pm to 5.00pm at the Temora Bowling Club to which Councillors, staff and their respective partners be invited.
2. That Council assist with the provision of transportation for employees based outside Temora.
3. That Council allocates \$2,500 for the event.

11. LOSS BY THEFT – COUNCIL EXCAVATOR & TRAILERS

(Nick Nasser)

During August 2008 work was being carried out on the upgrading of the water main in Yapunyah Street, Barellan. This work involved the use of a Council 1.5ton Takeuchi excavator with tandem axle trailer and a water jetting unit comprising of a 1000Lt water tank, a petrol driver pump and associated hoses, mounted on a tandem axle trailer. These items of plant were being housed each night at the Barellan Reservoir site which is a locked compound.

At sometime during the night of 27 August 2008 both trailers, complete with excavator and jetting unit were removed. The matter was reported to police when it was discovered at approximately 7.00am on 28 August 2008.

To date the equipment has not been recovered.

Since then anti-theft measures have been reviewed to reduce the risk of a reoccurrence. These include unloading of all small excavators each night and fitting of coupling locks to trailers.

An insurance claim has been lodged with Council's Insurers.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

08/110 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Palmer and McGregor that the information be noted.

**12. LATE ITEM: CORRESPONDENCE FROM FORMER MINISTER
PAM ALLAN (Paul Wearne)**

The General Manager read out correspondence from former State Minister, Pam Allan in relation to a discussion between Cr. McGregor and herself at the Local Government Water Management Conference in August 2008. Ms Allan will be in Wagga Wagga in early December 2008 and would like to accept Cr. McGregor's offer to tour part of the Goldenfields area of operations. It was agreed that the tour could take place on 4 December 2008 and that the Chairman, Cr. McGregor and the General Manager will endeavour to arrange and host the tour.

I. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Cr. Manchester advised Council that at a recent Executive Meeting of the Local Government & Shires Association he was informed that the Review into Local Water Utilities in Regional NSW was still proceeding and that it is his understanding that the report by the Inquiry Panel will be released by the Minister shortly.

Cr. O'Brien advised Council that he had been approached by members of the Mandamah Water Scheme Committee requesting a review of the project. The General Manager responded indicating that he had recently met with members of that committee and that a report will be submitted to the next Council meeting.

Cr. Morris inquired was there a possibility of the unused portion of the temporary transfer from Narrandera Shire Council to Goldenfields in 2007 being deemed as "carryover". The General Manager responded that it was his understanding that any unused allocation from Town Water Supplies could not be carried over into the next year.

Cr. Mangelsdorf advised Council that the matter of the Mandamah Scheme had been raised with him also. He also sought and was provided with information relating to how Council had developed and adopted its Levels of Water Restriction.

Cr. Palmer sought and was provided with information relating to the process required to obtain an increase in water entitlements. It was suggested that this matter be included in the upcoming review of Council's Strategic Business Plan.

Cr. Macaulay sought and was provided with information relating to Council's procedures in implementing its Training Plan.

J. CLOSED SESSION – 3.10PM (pink pages)

08/111 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Mangelsdorf and O'Brien that Council meet in Closed Session.

1. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN (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.

08/112 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer

1. That the information be noted.
2. That the Supplementary report from the General Manager be considered.

1. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT (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.

08/113 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Manchester and Palmer

1. That Council nominate two (2) Councillors to be members of the sub-committee to assess the Expressions of Interest for the Preparation of a Draft Strategic Business Plan
2. That this sub-committee be authorised to accept the quotation it considers to provide the best value to Council.
3. That the Councillor representation on the sub-committee be the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

2. LEASE OF COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT – TOWER STREET RESERVOIR, WEST WYALONG (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.

08/114 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Macaulay and Mangelsdorf

1. That in this particular instance Council authorise the formalisation of the Licensing Agreement between Goldenfields Water County Council and Vodafone Network Pty Ltd for the leasing of space for telecommunications equipment at Tower Street Reservoir site for a period of ten (10) years effective from 14 August 2005.
2. That Council authorise the fixing of the Council Seal to the relevant documents.

OPEN SESSION – 3.40PM

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08/115 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. McGregor and Palmer that the Council revert back 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 3.40pm.
