

**INFORMATION REPORTS**



### **DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS – MARCH 2014**

Below is a list of Development approvals determined during the month of March 2014 for your information.

<b>DA No.</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Construction</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Determination Date/Method</b>	<b>Value of Works</b>	<b>Type: DA/CC, Mod, s68, s96 etc.</b>
DA2013/0093	Elizabeth Bunny	Erection of a Dwelling (Dual Occupancy)	1119 Millthorpe Road, Millthorpe	Council Delegation 27 February 2014	\$150,000	DA/CC
DA2013/0066	Tamara and James Mercieca Ford	Use Part of Existing Building as Medical Consulting Rooms	3 Belubula Street, Carcoar	Council Delegation 4 March 2014	Nil	DA
DA2014/0015	Hotondo Homes	Erection of a Carport	512 Neville Road, Blayney	Council Delegation 5 March 2014	\$17,800	DA/CC
DA2014/0008	N Toohey & J Connolly	Erection of a Residential Extension	7265 Mid Western Highway, Lyndhurst	Council Delegation 6 March 2014	\$85,000	DA/CC
DA2014/0006	Michelle Rollo	Change of Use from Residential & Post Office to Operational Café & Signage	35 Mt McDonald Road, Lyndhurst	Council Delegation 6 March 2014	\$1000	DA
DA2014/0016	Taylor Made Buildings	Installation of a Transportable Home	36 Cherry Street, Mandurama	Council Delegation 21 March 2014	\$135,672	DA
DA2014/0017	Central Tablelands Water	Erection of a Fence	30 Church Street, Blayney	Council Delegation 21 March 2014	\$24,000	DA
DA2014/0012	Terry Richey	Demolition of Existing Fence and the Erection of a New Fence	6 Icely Street, Carcoar	Council Delegation 24 March 2014	\$52,000	DA
DA2013/0114	P Armstrong	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	166 Forest Reefs Road, Millthorpe	Council Meeting 24 March 2014	N/A	DA

DA2013/0121	Greensman Pty Ltd	Alterations & Additions to an Existing Service Station	49 Olive Street, Mandurama	Council Meeting 24 March 2014	\$200,000	DA
DA2014/0014	Dave Cowan Constructions	Extension to Existing Dwelling & Demolition	15 Elliott Street, Millthorpe	Council Delegation 24 March 2014	\$180,000	DA/CC

**DA's Approved in March 2014: 11**

**DA's Lodged in March 2014: 13**

**Total Value of Works approved in March 2014: \$845,472**

**DA's Approved in March 2013: 5**

**DA's Lodged in March 2013: 12**

**Total Value of Works approved in March 2013: \$ 322,996.26**



## ***WBC Alliance Report for Council meeting April 2014***

*(Prepared by the Executive Manager, WBC Alliance)*

### **SHARED SERVICES PROJECT: (Cabonne, Blayney and C TW)**

This project continues as the key priority for the Alliance.

Step 2 data collection and analysis is nearly complete with the final report from KPMG being presented to General Managers and Mayors **on 11 April**. Following that a decision will be made regarding the next steps and also how to communicate the findings to the councils and staff. The following functions and services have been included in this analysis phase:

- Road Construction
- Road Maintenance
- Water Supply
- Water Treatment
- Property and Asset Management
- Fleet, plant and equipment
- Category and tender management
- Financial management and accountancy
- Accounts payable and receivable
- Payroll
- ICT (hardware, software and infrastructure)
- ICT – Desktop Support
- HR – Advice and Recruitment
- Development Assessment
- Principal Certifying Authority
- Food Hygiene
- Public Health
- Design
- Contract management

The Project team have also now recommenced work on the **legal entity arrangements**.

This would include issues such as:

- Industrial relations matters including the development of position statements and contract arrangements of staff working in the Shared Service entity
- The role of the CEO/GM of the entity
- Governance and policy arrangements including voting rights and roles of the Board
- Financial management
- IT systems and supporting infrastructure requirements
- Location of the entity
- Target date for establishment

The final entity arrangements need to compliment the new legislation relating to the establishment of the proposed Joint Organisations that were recommended by the IRP.

The Alliance has prepared a response to the Ministers request for feedback to the Department on the final report from the Independent Review Panel which was due on 4 April. A copy of this is attached for your information.

#### **CENTROC SHARED SERVICES WORKSHOP:**

I recently participated in a workshop arranged by Centroc on “shared services for the region” along with the General Manager Blayney. The workshop was facilitated by consultant group ArcBlue who have been engaged by Centroc to undertake a major project to enable joint procurement across the region.

This workshop demonstrates the increased interest in “shared services”. It also demonstrated to me that the Alliance councils have a great deal more understanding of both the complexities and rewards such arrangements present. We were given the opportunity to briefly speak about our project which was very beneficial to the other councils participating.

### **PRESENTATION AT VICTORIAN CONFERENCE**

The Municipal Association of Victoria has asked me to present at their Annual conference in Melbourne in May. I have presented at this conference in 2012 and the Association has a keen interest in the work we are doing on shared services. The costs are covered by the Association. I will also be participating in panel discussions and workshops along with Graham Sansom, the ex-Chair of the Independent Local Government Review panel. This is a great opportunity for us to showcase our work but to also learn from other experts.

### **WBC Board Meeting:**

A date for the next board meeting has not been set.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the information be noted.



The Hon Don Page  
Minister for Local Government  
Level 33 Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister

**RE: RESPONSE TO PANEL REPORT**

On behalf of the member councils of the WBC Strategic Alliance, I am pleased to provide a response to the final report of the Independent Review Panel - "Revitalising Local Government".

You are aware of the great success of our Alliance and our ongoing work to develop a formalised shared service arrangement through the establishment of a legal entity. This project will benefit not only our member councils but the wider sector.

We are at an important stage of the Shared Services Project and are keen to progress this further. We are mindful, however, of external influences such as the establishment of Joint Organisations and suggested changes to county council operations, that need to be incorporated into our planning. We remain in contact with the CEO of OLG to ensure our project direction is consistent with the overall reform agenda of the State Government.

We will shortly be reporting on our progress and we would be happy to discuss our project with you should you require further information.

**Mr Scott Ferguson**  
Mayor Blayney Shire Council  
Chairman WBC Strategic Alliance

2 April 2014





*CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION – 2003 - 2013*

## WBC STRATEGIC ALLIANCE

RESPONSE TO

“REVITALISING LOCAL GOVERNMENT”

- FINAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW PANEL

*April 2014*





## **1 – INTRODUCTION:**

The WBC Strategic Alliance has been proactive and participatory in the consultations over the last 18 months concerning the future of local government. This is our fourth submission to this process and we have met on several occasions with the CEO OLG, Ross Woodward, specifically about the work we are undertaking to develop a **shared services structure** for our member councils, which could be replicated by other collaborative partnerships between councils,

This response focuses on the recommendations **relating to improving the performance of councils and the value of collaboration, regional cooperation and engagement** as outlined in the last report of the Independent Review Panel – *“Revitalising Local Government”*. We have been a strong supporter and advocate for the benefits of collaboration for a long time and we are working toward a new era for the WBC Alliance building on the great trust, relationships and creativity that exists between our member councils.

This submission will also provide an update on the Alliance Shared Services Project, which we believe will have significant outcomes that could inform and benefit the wider sector

## **2 - SHARED SERVICES PROJECT UPDATE**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Alliance commenced work in 2010 researching and then developing a shared service model. Our belief that shared services is a natural progression for our current Alliance structure and one that makes “good business sense” is not a knee jerk reaction to the call for reform by the State Government, but an approach we have been working towards for some time. We remain confident of achieving our goals, adopting a professional and business-type approach to service delivery.

As we have demonstrated over the past 10 years, that the member councils of the WBC Alliance are forward thinking and innovative. We were committed to shared services well before the findings of the Independent Review Panel and we consider that we are now well advanced in our understanding of the benefits, challenges and resources required to progress this structure. We would be enthusiastic to share our knowledge and experience with other councils or ROCs contemplating shared services.

## PROJECT SCOPE AND OUTCOMES:

The targeted outcome of this project is to transition the WBC Alliance from a voluntary cooperative arrangement to an appropriate legal entity delivering a range of shared services for member councils.

Our Project Team includes the General Managers of Cabonne, Blayney and Central Tablelands Water, supported by the Executive Manager of the WBC Alliance providing project management and coordination.

There are two main bodies of work currently being undertaken within this project:

THE BUSINESS MODEL	SERVICE DELIVERY
<p><u>Work to date:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Worked with legal experts to consider the options for an appropriate legal entity.</li><li>- Identified a company limited by guarantee and bounded by joint venture arrangement as the preferred option</li></ul> <p><u>Work to be done:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Establish the company</li><li>- Develop operating procedures and principles including governance, financial systems and processes</li></ul>	<p><u>Work to date:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- With KPMG, established vision, mission and values</li><li>- Determined design principles and methodology used to select services suitable for delivery within a shared entity</li><li>- Analysed services to select and prioritise initial service functions</li></ul> <p><u>Work to be done:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Detailed analysis and business case development which will identify cost, timetable and implementation plan</li></ul>

## ENGAGEMENT OF KPMG

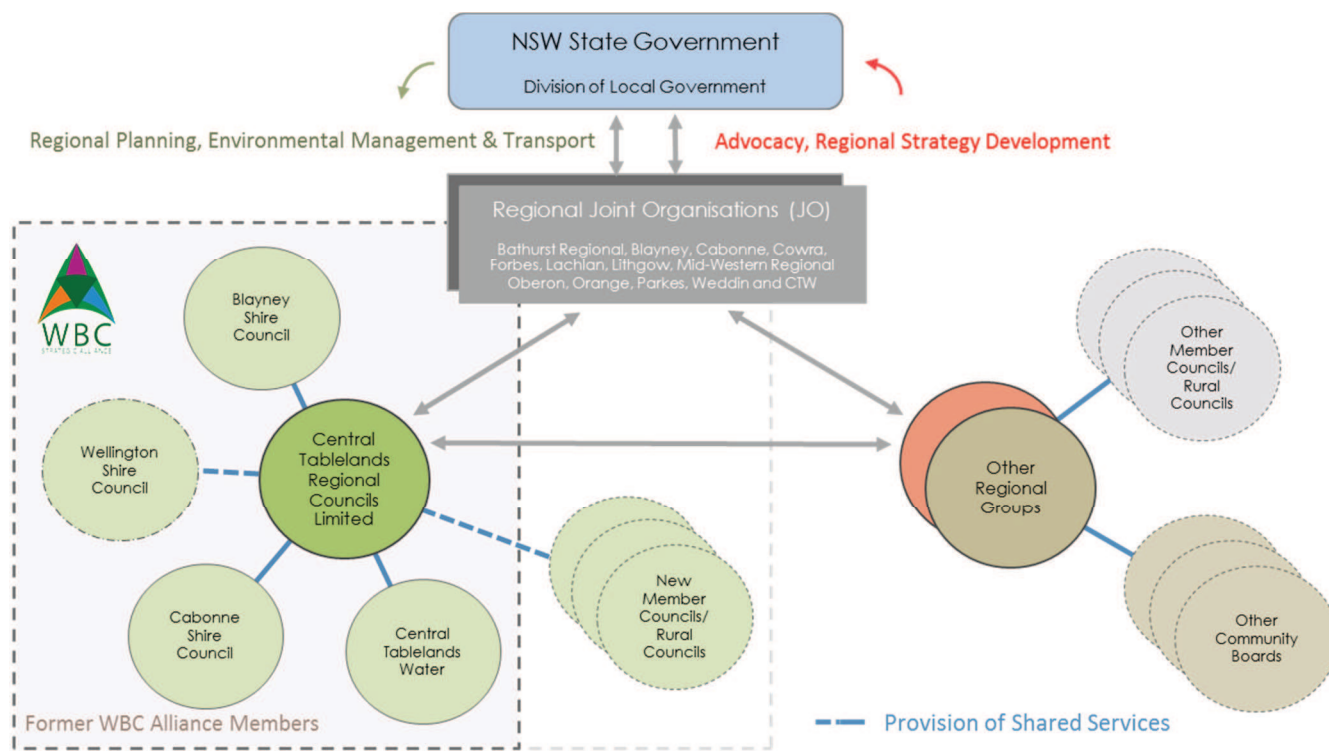
In December 2013, the Alliance engaged KPMG to assist with the further development of the Shared Service project specifically to:

- Defining the scope, vision, mission and values of the proposed model
- Identify and then analyse services that could be considered for delivery through the shared service entity
- Develop a high level implementation road map for Step 3

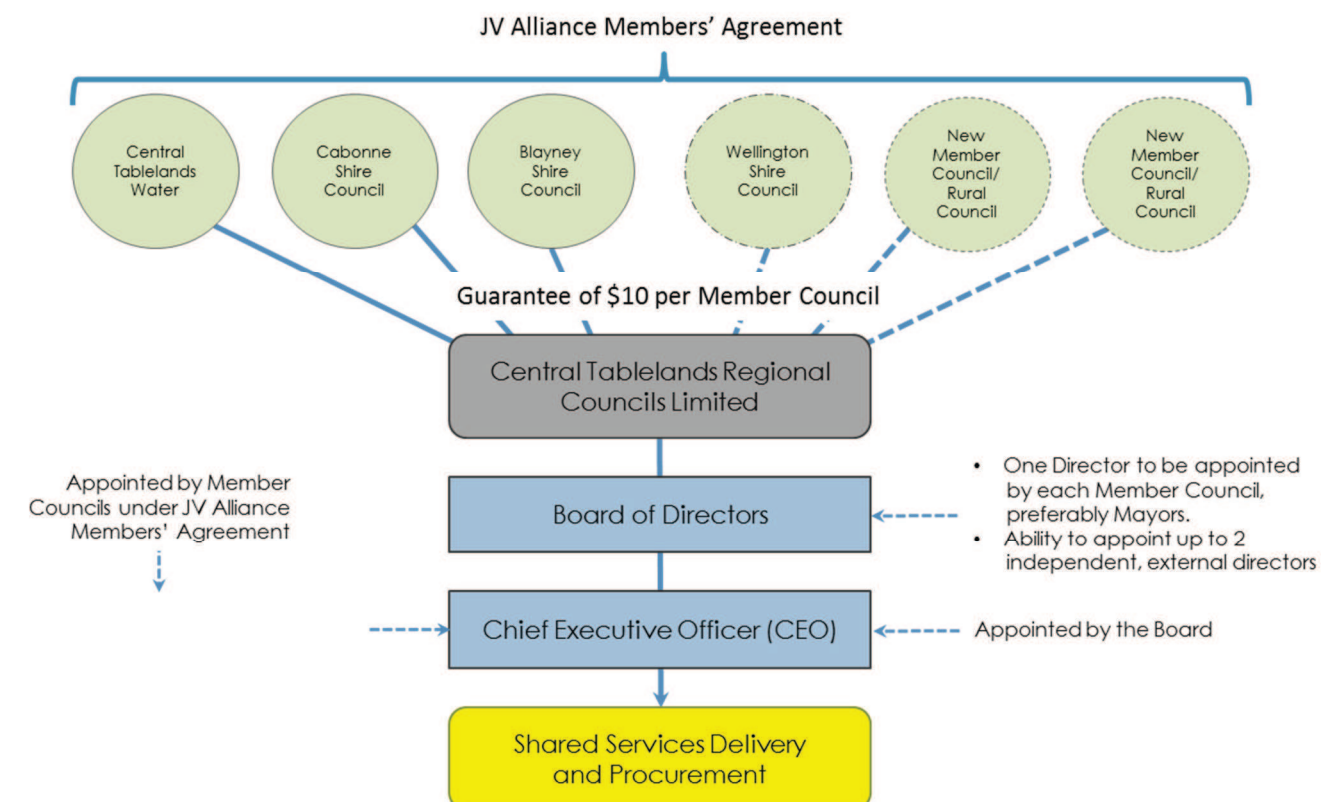
The work within Stage 1 and Stage 2 is now nearing completion with a final report from KPMG due mid-April. That report will include recommendations for the next Stage (3) and a high level implementation road map and timetable.

The following diagrams depict our current thinking around the regional relationships and the operating model.

## REGIONAL RELATIONSHIP TO JOINT ORGANISATION



## OPERATING MODEL:



### STAGE 3 – BUSINESS CASE AND IMPLEMENTATION.

The Alliance Board will consider the recommendations contained within the KPMG report during late April.

There continues a desire to complete Stage 3 and progress to implementation during 2014, subject to:

- The cost to complete Stage 3 and the cost of implementation, including establishment of the legal entity.
- Changes to the Local Government Act
- The final structure and legal status of Joint Organisations
- Other regional changes (such as boundary adjustments amalgamations or the relationship between County Councils and Joint Organisations (JO') impacting member councils)

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

We reiterate the recommendations made in our previous responses including:

1. That, the Alliance be **involved in further discussions** with the Office of Local Government to continue the development of a Shared Service Model and entity for the delivery of a range of shared services for the member Councils.
2. That, **funding or support be provided** to the Alliance to progress the current project to Stage 3
  - Detailed Business Case Development and Implementation.

*For more information about the **WBC Strategic Alliance** or to discuss this response in more detail please contact Donna Galvin, Executive Manager, WBC Strategic Alliance on 0419611204 or email to [donna.galvin@cabonne.nsw.gov.au](mailto:donna.galvin@cabonne.nsw.gov.au)*

## SUMMARY OF RELEVANT RECOMEMNDATIONS AND OVERVIEWS

Section11 : Regional Joint Organisations	
<p><b>Recommendation 35</b></p> <p>Establish new Joint Organisations for each of the regions shown on Map 2 by means of individual proclamations negotiated under new provisions of the Local Government Act that replace those for County Councils(11.5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defer establishment of JOs in the Sydney metropolitan region, except for sub-regional strategic planning, pending further consideration of options for council mergers (11.5)</li> <li>• Enter into discussions with 2-3 regions to establish '<b>pilot</b>' JOs (11.5)</li> <li>• Re- constitute existing <b>County Councils</b> as subsidiaries of new regional JO, as indicated in Table 5</li> <li>• Establish Regional <b>Water Alliances</b> in each JO along the lines proposed in the 2009 Armstrong- Gellatly report</li> <li>• Set the <b>core functions</b> of Joint Organisations by means of Ministerial Guidelines (11.6)</li> <li>• Seek federal government agreement to make JOs eligible for general-purpose <b>FAGs</b> (11.6)</li> </ul>	<p>Support that Joint Organisations be established by means of individual proclamations <u>negotiated</u> under new provisions of the Local Government Act.</p> <p>Support core functions should be set by Ministerial guidelines – however, these should only include core functions as each JO needs to establish priorities and functions/services that are most needed for its particular region ( as per recommendation 31) Support that regional planning should be a key function.</p> <p><b>Do not</b> support the recommendation that county councils be subsidiaries of JO. In general, see the role of JOs to undertake regional advocacy, planning, communications and the provisions of services not adequately delivered through member councils.</p> <p>While we support the recommendation for the establishment of Regional Water Alliances, we <b>do not support</b> these organisations being subsidiaries of JOs. We endorse the submissions of Central Tablelands Water (CTW), which we have not repeated here.</p> <p>While we support the recommendation that JOs might be eligible to receive general purpose FAGs grants, we <b>do not</b> agree that JO's manage FAGs grants as they apply to general purpose councils.</p>

### BOX 30: FRAMEWORK FOR ESTABLISHING NEW JOINT ORGANISATIONS

- JO's would be regional bodies established under new provisions of the Local Government Act replacing those for County councils
- Membership and ongoing active participation by councils would be mandatory
- Each JO would be established by a separate proclamation which would be negotiated amongst the member councils and with the Minister, with the assistance of expert facilitators provided by the State Government
- The proclamation would set out the name, area, membership, functions, staffing and governance and financial arrangements (including payment of any 'dividends' to member councils)
- In finalising a proclamation the Minister would act on the advice of a Ministerial Advisory Group
- The governing body would comprise the mayor of each member council, but the proclamation could provide for additional council representatives and for 'participating observers' or advisers from outside local government

**Do not** support incorporating county councils as subsidiaries of the JO therefor legislation for County Council needs to remain in the Act

See comments above – membership and financial commitment to the operation of the JO must be mandated or agreed within a legal contractual arrangement

Support.

Support.

Not clear on what role and membership the MAG would have in this process.

Support but this needs to be flexible and based on the needs of the particular region and councils.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each JO would prepare a 10 year Strategic Business Plan and 4-year Delivery Program to guide (but not restrict) operations, both to be endorsed by member councils and updated as required</li> <li>• JOs would be able to establish subsidiaries to undertake specific functions, and would incorporate existing County Councils (for which transitional provisions would apply)</li> <li>• Subsidiaries would have their own boards, which would be skills- based, and could include senior council staff and people with relevant expertise drawn from outside local government</li> <li>• Subsidiaries would be required to agree an annual Statement of Intent with the governing body to ensure that their activities and priorities align with those of the JO and its member councils</li> <li>• JOs would hold annual general meetings open to all councilors of member councils and to the public, at which they would report on and account for their activities, and at which priorities and strategies for the coming year could be discussed</li> <li>• Other provisions of the Act would apply to JOs as they do to councils, but variations could be made by Regulations or the terms of proclamations (eg to eliminate unwarranted compliance processes)</li> </ul>	<p>Support</p> <p>Do not support the recommendation that County Councils become subsidiaries of JOs. We support the recommendation that JOs be able to establish subsidiaries for specific purposes including the provision of services.</p> <p>Support in principle</p> <p>There is very little detail at the moment about the legal status of Joint Organisations and the industrial relations legislation that would apply.</p>
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### Box 31 Proposed Core Functions of Joint Organisations

Generally support the proposed functions with **the exception of “activities of existing county councils”** – these should be considered on a case by case basis and not be arbitrarily reconstituted as a subsidiary of the JO.

Need to construct the JO activities into two main areas

- policy/strategy/advocacy – where the Mayors would be involved
- Operational service provision – where the General Managers would be involved to provide services not adequately available within the region.

The “proclamation” needs to be flexible enough to allow the JO to expand or contract service provision/activities based on the needs of its member councils at any one time.

<i>Panel Recommendation</i>	<i>WBC Alliance comments</i>
<b>Section: Driving and Monitoring Reform</b>	
<b>Recommendation 61:</b> Establish a Ministerial Advisory Group and Project Management Office	.The level of reform being recommended will require strong leadership and commitment and support. Our councils believe that reform is necessary and we have demonstrated innovation in our approach over the last 10 years and into the future with our shared service direction. However we need support from State Government in its execution
<b>Recommendation 63 and 65</b>	
- Adopt in principle the proposed priority initial implementation package set out in Box 42, as a basis for discussions with LGNSW under the State-Local Government Agreement (18.3).  - Adopt in principle the proposed implementation timelines (18.6)	





**The Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP**  
Minister for Sport and Recreation

Ref: CORP13/96

Mr Glenn Wilcox  
General Manager  
Blayney Shire Council  
PO Box 62  
BLAYNEY NSW 2799

Dear Mr Wilcox

I am pleased to advise that Blayney Shire Council has been successful in securing funds for the project titled, Napier Street Oval - toilet/change facilities.

An amount of \$25,000 has been awarded for this project to your organisation, subject to the terms and conditions of the grant.

Information relating to your grant, including terms and conditions and how to access the funding will be forwarded shortly by Sport and Recreation.

Please contact Clare Green, Project Officer on telephone 9006 3837 or email [clare.green@communities.nsw.gov.au](mailto:clare.green@communities.nsw.gov.au) to seek any further advice on the grant program.

I wish you every success with your project.

Yours sincerely

Gabrielle Upton MP  
Minister for Sport and Recreation

(4-3-14)

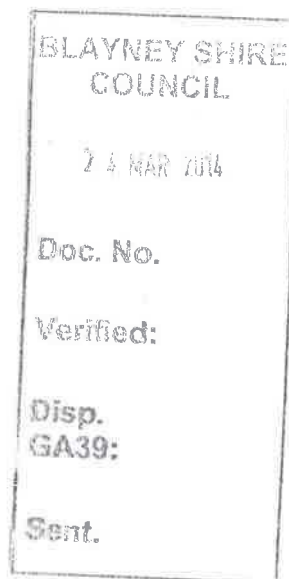
<b>BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL</b>
24 March 2014
Doc. No.
Verified:
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Sent.



# Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

20 March 2014

Cr Scott Ferguson  
Mayor  
Blayney Shire Council  
PO Box 62  
BLAYNEY NSW 2799



Chairman: Cr Rod Kendall  
PO Box 20, Coffs Wagga Wagga NSW 2650  
02 6926 9111  
ABN 92 803 490 533

Dear Scott

I thank you and your General Manager Glenn Wilcox for attending the Country Mayors Association meeting in Sydney on 14 March 2014. I hope you found the meeting worthwhile and informative.

The objective of the Country Mayors Association is to further the interests of Country Councils by being an advocate on state wide issues and to act as an information sharing forum. Those Councils eligible for membership are Country Council's outside the Greater Sydney area, Newcastle and Wollongong metropolitan areas. Meetings are attended by the Mayors and General Managers of the member Councils.

The Country Mayors Association meets in Sydney quarterly, usually on a Friday in March, June, August and November. At each meeting we have high calibre guest speakers preferably Ministers or senior bureaucrats. This allows members to be informed on current issues facing Local Government and gives members the opportunity to make informal contact and to make appointments with Ministers or senior staff. The Hon Kevin Humphries, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles, and Minister for Western New South Wales will be presenting at our meeting of 13 June 2014.

Many members take the opportunity while they are in Sydney to make other appointments which adds value to their visit.

The cost of membership has been \$750 per annum for many years. A change to our constitution is recommending that Councils with a population of less than 10,000 shall pay a membership fee of 75% of the full fee. Membership fees are decided at the Annual General Meeting which is held in November each year and are used to pay a secretariat, any room hire fees and the cost of morning tea and lunch. Accumulated fees are available to be used to further the interests of Country Councils such as lobbying, and undertaking research, to allow submissions to be prepared to government on issues affecting member councils.

I extend to your council an invitation to join the Country Mayors Association.

Should you require any additional information please don't hesitate to email me at [mayor@wagga.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mayor@wagga.nsw.gov.au) or contact Secretariat Allan Burgess on 0418 249 147.

I look forward to your favourable response

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R Kendall', followed by the date '1-11'.

Cr Rod Kendall  
Chairman Country Mayors Association of NSW



# Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

**Chairman:** Cr Rod Kendall  
*PO Box 20 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650*  
*02 69269111*  
*ABN 92 803 490 533*

## MINUTES

### GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 14 MARCH 2014, COUNTRY EMBASSY, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.32 a.m.

#### 1. ATTENDANCE:

Albury City Council, Mr Frank Zaknich, General Manager  
Armidale Dumaresq Council, Cr Laurie Bishop, Mayor  
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Gary Rush, Mayor  
Bathurst Regional Council, Mr David Sherley, General Manager  
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Mark Troy, Mayor  
Berrigan Shire Council, Cr Bernard Curtin, Mayor  
Berrigan Shire Council, Mr Rowan Perkins, General Manager  
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor  
Blayney Shire Council, Mr Glenn Wilcox, General Manager  
Boorowa Council, Cr Wendy Tuckerman, Mayor  
Boorowa Council, Ms Anthony McMahon, General Manager  
Dubbo City Council, Cr Mathew Dickenson, Mayor  
Dubbo City Council, Mr Mark Riley, General Manager  
Eurobodalla Shire Council, Cr Lindsay Brown, Mayor  
Gloucester Shire Council, Cr John Rosenbaum, Mayor  
Gloucester Shire Council, Mr Danny Green, General Manager  
Griffith City Council, Cr John Dal Broi, Mayor  
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager  
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Owen Hasler, Mayor  
Inverell Shire Council, Cr Paul Harmon, Mayor  
Jerilderie Shire Council, Mr Craig Moffitt, General Manager  
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom, Mayor  
Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Cr Ian Lobsey, Mayor  
Mid Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Cr Des Kennedy, Mayor  
Mid Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Warwick Bennett, General Manager  
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Conrad Bolton, Mayor  
Queanbeyan City Council, Cr Tim Overall, Mayor  
Shoalhaven City Council, Mr Russell Pigg, General Manager

Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Col Murray, Mayor  
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager  
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor  
Temora Shire Council, Mr Gary Lavelle, General Manager  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Shaw, Mayor  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council, Mr John Bell, General Manager  
Urana Shire Council, Cr Patrick Bourke, Mayor  
Urana Shire Council, Mr Adrian Butler, General Manager  
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Rod Kendall, Mayor  
Wagga Wagga City Council, Mr Phil Pinyon, General Manager  
Wakool Shire Council, Cr Neil Gorey, Mayor  
Wakool Shire Council, Mr Bruce Graham, General Manager  
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Peter Shinton, Mayor  
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager  
Wellington Shire Council, Cr Rod Buhr, Mayor  
Wellington Shire Council, Mr Michael Tolhurst, General Manager  
Yass Valley Council, Mr David Rowe, General Manager

**APOLOGIES:**

As submitted

**SPECIAL GUESTS:**

Hon Donald Page, Minister for Local Government, and Minister for the North Coast  
Mr Geoff Frost, Regional Research Leader, Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and  
Regional Economics

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 15 November 2013 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Bellingen Shire Council / Gunnedah Shire Council).

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Nil

**4. Membership**

Invitations were sent out to non member Councils to attend this meeting and Blaney Shire, Jerilderie Shire, Leeton Shire, Urana Shire, Wakool Shire and Wellington Shire are represented today. Bega Valley Shire, Harden Shire and Walcha Shire will attend the next meeting.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Outward

- (a) The Hon Constance MP, Minister for Finance thanking him for his presentation on 15 November 2013
- (b) Mr Jock Laurie, NSW Land and Water Commissioner thanking him for his presentation on 15 November 2013
- (c) Mr Peter Coulton, Director of Corporate Services, Local Government NSW thanking him for his presentation on 15 November 2013

NOTED

**6. FINANCIAL REPORT**

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Boorowa Shire Council / Berrigan Shire Council)

**7. Review of Constitution**

Clauses 18, 19 and 29 were discussed and it was

RESOLVED on the majority of members present that the recommended clause changes be adopted

RESOLVED on the majority of members present that General Manager be deleted from clause 6

RESOLVED on the majority of members present that Clause 9 heading be amended to "Conduct of Members" and the clause to read "The provisions of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW shall apply in cases of alleged misconduct"

**8. Policy Issues**

(a) Resourcing of Regional and Rural Councils

RESOLVED on the majority of members present that proposal 1 be subject to Councils being allowed to apply for a Special Rate Variation if they miss out on any redistribution or are adversely affected

RESOLVED on the majority of members present that proposal 4 be deleted

RESOLVED on the majority of members present that an additional proposal on the National Roads Reporting Pilot be included

(b) Planning Reform and Population and Housing Projections

RESOLVED on the majority of members present that the policy paper be adopted and it be forwarded to LGNSW for comment

**9. PRESENTATIONS**

**9.1**Hon Donald Page, Minister for Local Government, and Minister for the North Coast

The Local Government reform process started in Dubbo in 2011. The aim is to have more effective service delivery, for councils to be sustainable, to improve governance structures, to improve relationships between councils and their communities and between councils and follow the principle that one size doesn't fit all. No forced amalgamations was one of the Review Panels Terms of Reference. The Governments response to the report will be referred to Cabinet.

THE Minister advised that he was not allowed to comment on the recommendations to Cabinet but did outline some general principles where he believed there was support. The Government is generally supportive of

- Joint Organisations and 10 areas are outlined in the report
- A financing agency for Local Government that will allow councils to borrow at the same rate that the State can, which could amount to a saving of up to 2%
- Redistribution of Financial Assistance Grants so those that need it most will get the money

The Minister has signed a new intergovernmental agreement with LGNSW which will promote better co-operation and communication and provides for a minimum of 2 meetings per year. Feedback on the Model Code of Conduct has been good and the Early Intervention Legislation allows issues to be dealt with upfront. The Minister would like to see increased involvement by the Auditor General with Local Government and would appreciate feedback in this regard.

**9.2 Mr Geoff Frost, Regional Research Leader, Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics**

Mr Frost gave a presentation on the Bureaus research on the Evolution of Australian Towns across the census 1911, 1961 and 2006. The project considers 4 basic questions

- How has settlement patterns in Australia's towns changed from 1911 to 2006
- What caused the changes
- What mechanisms
- What does that mean for the future

A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes

**10. General Business**

Postal and Electronic Voting Local Government Elections

The executive will prepare a position paper to be submitted to the next meeting of Country Mayors

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.15pm.

Cr Rod Kendall

Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW



## **Report from the Mayor from the Centroc Board Meeting 27 February at Mount Panorama in Bathurst.**

I attended the Centroc Board meeting at Mount Panorama in Bathurst and provide the following report for Council's information. Draft meeting minutes are attached.

Speakers in attendance meeting were:

1. Mr Roger Stephan, CEO of Hunter Councils providing advice on their model of collaboration between Councils and
2. Mr Norm Mann (Chair) and Ms Lucy White (CEO) providing advice on the growing success of Central NSW Tourism.

Presentations are available on request.

There was significant discussion regarding water security in the region and Local Government reforms.

### **Water Security**

Given the activity by State Water and the Hon John Cobb in the region, there is an opportunity to ensure that the water security of our urban communities is reviewed and assured. The Board has resolved to ramp up its advocacy in this space and to seek advice on a review of the Centroc Water Security Study.

### **Local Government Reforms**

The draft response to the reports by the Independent Local Government Review Panel and the Local Government Acts Taskforce is available on request where the resolution is in the attached draft minutes. In general while the Board finds merit in a number of the initiatives slated for reform, they are not supportive of any **mandatory** structural reform, be it amalgamations, Rural Councils or Councils of Mayors. The Board is open to reform that leads to better regional procurement and an improved relation with the State such that Regional Actions Plans are more reflective of local priorities as reflected Community Service Plans.

The Board were also very concerned that much of the reform is compliance based and resource hungry and will lead to Local Councils being process rich and outcomes poor.

The Board meeting considered reports against its Management Plan including the following. Please request full reports from Ms J Bennett, Executive Officer of Centroc, 0428 690 935.

**Transport Infrastructure** – Council should note that there will be a workshop in the region in the near future providing advice on the Office of Local Government’s review of Special Schedule 7.

**Health** – Advice was provided regarding the progression of meetings around the region with the development of content to be used for marketing and promotional purposes to attract health workforce as part of the Beyond the Range campaign.

**Member Council operational support** - noting the substantial amount of activity being undertaken collaboratively in support of member operations. This includes net savings to members under these programs since December 14 2009 of \$2.29m.

A Centroc Management Plan report providing direction to the next year’s activities was also approved where the Board resolved a steady approach to activities in the context of local government reform. Existing resource is to be redirected to supporting Councils in energy, particularly electricity, management.

The Board were also advised that a meeting at Parliament House in meeting in Canberra will be held 26 August. This is being co-ordinated through the Hon John Cobb’s office. The next Board meeting of Centroc will be in Parliament House, Macquarie St, this is being co-ordinated through the Andrew Gee, Member for Orange’s office.

Councillors have been provided with copies of the Annual Report from Centroc for 2012/1023 or please go to Centroc website where the Centroc business papers are also available - [centroc.com.au](http://centroc.com.au) or via Centroc staff through the General Manager.

I think you can see from the above that there is a lot of valuable collaborative activity going on in this region, and I commend this report to you for noting.

Recommendation/s
That the Mayoral Report from the Centroc Board Meeting 27 February at Mount Panorama in Bathurst be noted



## Draft Minutes of the Board meeting 27 February 2014 Mt Panorama Bathurst

### Delegates in Bold

<b>Cr G Rush</b>	Bathurst Regional Council	<b>Mr G Styles</b>	Orange City Council
<b>Mr B Roach</b>	Bathurst Regional Council	<b>Cr K Keith</b>	Parkes Shire Council
<b>Cr W Tuckerman</b>	Boorowa Council	<b>Mr K Boyd</b>	Parkes Shire Council
<b>Mr A McMahon</b>	Boorowa Council	<b>Cr J Shaw</b>	Upper Lachlan Shire
<b>Cr I Gosper</b>	Cabonne Council	<b>Mr J Bell</b>	Upper Lachlan Shire
<b>Mr A Hopkins</b>	Cabonne Council	<b>Cr M Liebich</b>	Weddin Shire Council
<b>Cr D Somerville</b>	Central Tablelands Water	<b>Mr G Carroll</b>	Weddin Shire Council
<b>Mr T Perry</b>	Central Tablelands Water	<b>Cr S Freudenstein</b>	Young Shire Council
<b>Cr B West</b>	Cowra Shire Council	<b>Mr P Vlatko</b>	Young Shire Council
<b>Mr P Devery</b>	Cowra Shire Council	<b>Mr B Steffen</b>	Forbes Shire Council
<b>Cr P Miller</b>	Forbes Shire Council	Cr B Miller	Cowra Shire Council
<b>Cr R Penny</b>	Forbes Shire Council	Ms J Bennett	Centroc
<b>Cr D Manwaring</b>	Lachlan Shire Council	Ms M Macpherson	Centroc
<b>Ms L Collyer</b>	Lachlan Shire Council	Ms L Chapman	Centroc
<b>Cr R Thompson</b>	Lithgow City Council	Mr Norman Mann	CNSWT
<b>Mr R Bailey</b>	Lithgow City Council	Ms Lucy White	CNSWT
<b>Cr J McMahon</b>	Oberon Council	Cr Monica Morse	CNSWT
<b>Mr A Cairney</b>	Oberon Council	Mr Roger Stephan	Hunter Councils

### 1 Meeting opened at 10.05 Chaired by Cr K Keith

### 2 Apologies

Mr D Sherley, Cr S Ferguson, Mr G Wilcox, Cr M Statham, Cr J Davis and Cr G Braddon.

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr R Penny/Cr B West</b>
That the apologies for the Centroc Board meeting 27 February listed above be accepted.	

### 3 Welcome to Bathurst by Cr Gary Rush – who spoke about the future of Mt Panorama including a 2<sup>nd</sup> circuit which will have significant tourism benefit to the region.

### 4 Speakers

Mr Roger Stephan, CEO of Hunter Councils, regarding the Hunter Councils' Model.

Mr Norm Mann, Chair, Ms Lucy White Executive Officer and Monica Morse of Central NSW Tourism with advice on the Destination Management Plan and progress of regional tourism.

### 5 Minutes

#### 5a Confirmation of the Minutes of the GMAC Meeting 6 February 2014

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Mr G Styles/Mr K Boyd</b>
That the Minutes of the Centroc GMAC Meeting 6 February 2014 held in Orange be confirmed.	

#### 5b Confirmation of the Minutes of the Board Meeting 28 November 2013

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Mr J Bell/ Cr D Manwaring</b>
That the Minutes of the Centroc Board Meeting 28 November held at Young Shire Council be confirmed.	

## **5c Noting of the Minutes of the AGM 28 November 2013**

### **Resolved**

**Cr S Freudenstein/Mr G Styles**

That the Minutes of the Centroc AGM 28 November held at Young Shire Council be noted with corrections made regarding names for the Executive.

## **6 Business Arising from the Minutes – Matters in Progress**

### **Resolved**

**Mr G Styles/Cr D Manwaring**

That the Board note the matters in progress, making deletions as suggested and note the meeting August 26 of the Board will be held in Canberra.

## **7 Correspondence**

### **7a Correspondence In**

#### **Resolved**

**Cr B West/Cr S Freudenstien**

That the Board note the incoming correspondence.

### **7b Correspondence Out**

#### **Resolved**

**Cr B West/Cr S Freudenstien**

That the Board note the outgoing correspondence.

## **8 Reports**

### **8a Transport Infrastructure including Bells Line of Road**

#### **Resolved**

**Cr K Keith/Cr B West**

That the Board note the Transport Infrastructure report and

1. write a letter to the DLG requesting a workshop on Special Schedule 7 in the Centroc region, relating to roads valuations;
2. seek advice regarding status of securing the corridor for the Bells Line M7 – Bell; and
- 3.. refer the current crop of transport infrastructure strategies to the Engineers' Group for review and advice to the Board.

### **8b Water Infrastructure**

#### **Resolved**

**Mr K Boyd/Cr R Penny**

That the Board note the Water Infrastructure report and:

1. adopt the Regional Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan and CWUA Water Sampling Policy templates;
2. through the Executive, advocate as a matter of urgency for a review of the Centroc Water Security Study with urban water security as the key focus;
3. agree that the project team formed to progress regional infrastructure solutions to water security for the region (Options F2A) re-scope the consultant brief and review preliminary cost estimates and timeframes to review the Centroc Water Security Study;
4. support the Needles Gap Dam in concert with the inclusion of a proper assessment of the Lake Rowlands and Carcoar dam elements for urban water security in the Centroc region;
5. undertake advocacy towards the State election that includes funding for the Country Towns Water and Sewer Scheme;
6. seek funding of a review of the Centroc Water Security Study inclusive of the potential of Carcoar Dam with urban water security as the focus be sought through:
  - i. the state government's decentralisation taskforce \$40m;
  - ii. potential funding through the Federal Government with support to be sought from

the Hon John Cobb, Member for Calare; and  
 iii. potential funding through Centroc councils; and  
 7. include The Hon Angus Taylor and Minister Katrina Hodgkinson in any advocacy undertakings.

#### **8c Health Report**

##### **Resolved**

**Cr R Penny/Mr R Bailey**

That the Health report be noted and a report be received by the Board providing more detail regarding the opportunities identified by the meeting on 7 February for collaboration with Western Area Health and Western Medicare Local.

#### **8d Telecommunications**

##### **Resolved**

**Mr G Styles/Cr P Miller**

That the Board note the Telecommunications report and note the submission to the mobile coverage program discussion paper.

#### **8e Regional Development**

##### **Resolved**

**Mr G Styles/Cr S Freudenstein**

That the Board note the Regional Development Report and request CNSWT provide advice regarding the possibility of a stars/night sky regional project that includes all Centroc members.

#### **8f Planning Report**

##### **Resolved**

**Mr G Styles/Cr B West**

The Planning report be noted and through the Executive, Centroc develop a strategy regarding regional local government reform including:

1. developing a response to the Panel and Taskforce reports in two parts, firstly a response to the Reports as printed noting the significant number of positive ideas there-in and secondly, specific commentary regarding the Joint Organisation of Councils (JOCs) as mooted for this region;
2. this response to be within existing policy, including a table responding to all Panel and Taskforce recommendations and;
  - a. seeking to minimise red tape and favour outcomes over process in the delivery of Council activities;
  - b. be cost neutral to Councils;
  - c. maintains the Board position of keeping the "Local" in local government and supporting the Principle of Subsidiarisation;
3. providing advice that mandatory Joint Organisations of Councils and Rural Councils are not supported;
4. while the following advice should not be viewed as an endorsement of recommendations of the reports regarding Joint Organisations of Councils, should the State implement regional structures as outlined in these reports
  - a. that mandatory JOCs only be developed if there is a state wide commitment to support and resource State agencies to develop the regional activities that add value to local communities;
  - b. should JOCs be mandatory and have mandatory boundaries for this region:
    - i. While membership is mandatory, the only mandatory functions would be strategic planning;

- ii. Local Councils would own the entity, that is, it cannot be separately constituted as is currently the case with County Councils;
- iii. JOCs in this region would not have Council assets transferred to them though they may “grow their own,” at the direction of the Board;
- iv. There be the capacity to own subsidiaries or business entities in this region, but that they not include existing County Councils;
- v. The Board be made up of Mayors and General Managers;
- vi. Noting the advice above the Rural Councils are not supported, any roll out of Rural Councils in this region be reviewed subject to detailed advice on the costs of implementation to the region;
- vii. Building on the successes of the CWUA, advocacy, training and procurement capabilities and given the region’s ongoing support for incremental change, it is currently:
  - 1. evolving its regional engineers group into a regional roads group;
  - 2. a willing partner in growing State/Local relationships with a view to better more informed Regional Actions Plans and a regional review of Community Strategic Plans and
- 5. the region is ready willing and able to provide advice regarding the success and roll out of the Centroc Water Utilities’ Alliance for those region’s interested in such a model;
- 6. overall, the reform of Local Government deliver focus on outcomes and not process, avoiding the development of compliance based organisations similar to State entities;
- 7. that the Centroc Executive meet with REROc with a view to better understanding their model and position regarding the reform process;
- 8. commencing working with State agencies with a view to the feasibility of a regional roads group;
- 9. continuing to advocate regarding enabling procurement for the region;
- 10. seeking advice from Central Tablelands Water and Upper Macquarie County Council regarding their views on the Panel’s recommendations regarding their structure;
- 11. advising key stakeholders in the region owned or funded by Local Government that:
  - a. the advice from the Panel seeks to rationalise regional services under the one entity;
  - b. the Centroc Board is of a view that cost benefit would need to be undertaken subsequent to the response from the NSW Government with regard to the Panel and Taskforce Reports; and
  - c. the ongoing value of their status quo service delivery is recognised
- 12. advise key stakeholders in the region in economic development be advised that the Centroc Board is of a view that cost benefit would need to be undertaken subsequent to the response from the NSW Government with regard to the Panel and Taskforce Reports;
- 13. receiving a Board report from the CWUA regarding the fit with their programming, the Gellatly Report and the evolving State position with regard to Local Water Utilities;
- 14. advice be provided progressing the Arc Blue opportunity to develop a Shared Services Regional Roadmap and that this advice include its fit with activity being undertaken by Wellington Blayney Cabonne Alliance;
- 15. KPIs be included in an MoU or similar instrument collaboration with DPC to measure the success of State/Local Government collaboration at the regional level,
- 16. note the submission to the Local Government Performance Measurement Framework; and
- 17. under the auspices of the Executive, Centroc provide advice in line with the above to the Minister

for Local Government, the Hon Don Page;

**8g Operational Report**

**Resolved** **Mr K Boyd/Mr A Hopkins**

That the Board note the net savings of \$2,229,068 achieved through the Compliance and Cost Savings Program and note the balance of the Operations report.

**8i Management Plan for 2014/2015**

**Resolved** **Cr B West/Cr D Manwaring**

That the Board approve the Management Plan with associated fee structure noting an increase of fees for the CWUA, training and administration of 2.3%.

**8j Constitution Report**

**Resolved** **Mr G Styles/Mr R Bailey**

That the Board provide advice to members regarding constitutional amendment and receive a report accordingly.

**8j Financial Report**

**Resolved** **Mr K Boyd/Mr R Penny**

That the Board note the Financial Report

**9 Matters Raised by Members**

**Resolved** **Cr P Miller/ Cr R Penny**

That the Board receive a report on advocacy to the State election

**10 General Business**

10a. CR B West provided an update on Blayney Demondrile Railway.

10b. Ms L Collyer provided advice that RSVPs to the International Women's Day breakfast 6 March in Lachlan would be welcomed by Monday 3 March.

**11 Speakers to the next meeting – None as the meeting will be in Parliament House**

**12 Next Meetings**

GMAC - 17 April - Orange

Board -29 May - Parliament House Sydney – please arrive the night before for a Board dinner at Parliament House (currently being negotiated)

**Meeting closed at 12:50pm**

**Page 5 is the last page of the Centroc Board Minutes 27 February 2014.**

## **Upper Macquarie County Council**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Council Chambers, Kelso, on Friday 7 February 2014**

In the absence of the Chairman the Deputy Chairman took the Chair.

The Deputy Chairman declared the meeting open at 2.30 p.m.

#### **Attendance**

The following members were present –  
Councillor C Hunter, Deputy Chairman and in the Chair  
Councillors  
J McMahon  
N Francis  
D Kingham  
R Thompson

The General Manager and Chief Weeds Officer were also in attendance.

#### **Apologies**

An apology for unavoidable absence was received from Councillor Braddon.

**Moved** Councillor Kingham

**Seconded** Councillor Thompson

**That** the apology of Councillor Braddon be accepted and he be granted leave of absence.

**Resolved in the affirmative**

#### **Confirmation of Minutes**

**Moved** Councillor McMahon

**Seconded** Councillor Thompson

**That** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 20 December 2013, a copy of which had been provided to each Councillor prior to the meeting, be adopted.

**Resolved in the affirmative**

Councillors North and Aubin arrived at this point.

#### **Matters arising from the Minutes**

##### **Certificate**

This is page 1 of 4 pages of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Upper Macquarie County Council held at the Council Chambers, Kelso on Friday, 20 December 2013.

Chairman..... General Manager.....

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **Declaration of Interest**

**Moved** Councillor McMahon  
**Seconded** Councillor Kingham  
**That** the Council note this matter.  
**Resolved in the affirmative**

### **County Chairman's report**

The Chairman did not give a report.

### **Chief Weeds Officer's Report**

The Chief Weeds Officer informed the meeting that because of the drought the aerial spraying of serrated tussock and blackberry that had been scheduled for this month has been cancelled.

**Moved** Councillor North  
**Seconded** Councillor Thompson  
**That** the report of the Chief Weeds Officer be adopted.  
**Resolved in the affirmative**

### **General Manager's Report**

#### **Item A – Meeting dates**

The General Manager informed the Council that this item was for information only.

#### **Item B – Quarterly Delivery Program Progress Report**

**Moved** Councillor Thompson.  
**Seconded** Councillor Kingham.  
**That** the Council adopt the General Manager's Delivery Program Progress Report in respect of the quarter ended 31 December 2013.  
**Resolved in the affirmative**

#### **Item C – Budget Review Statement**

**Moved** Councillor Thompson.  
**Seconded** Councillor McMahon.

#### **Certificate**

This is page 2 of 4 pages of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Upper Macquarie County Council held at the Council Chambers, Kelso on Friday, 20 December 2013.

Chairman..... General Manager.....

**That** the Council adopt the General Manager's Budget Review Statement and report for the quarter ended 31 December 2013.

**Resolved in the affirmative**

**Item D – Prosecution policy**

The General Manager informed the Council that this item was for information only.

**Item E – Appointment of Inspectors**

**Moved** Councillor Thompson.

**Seconded** Councillor McMahon.

That the Council –

- Pursuant to Section 41 of the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* appoint the following employees as inspectors for the purposes of the Act –  
Anthony Paul Gunning  
Phillip Gregory Howe  
Christopher Alan Jackson  
Christopher Kevin Roweth  
Laurence John Waddell  
Leslie Arthur Willott, and
- Issue to the following employees a certificate of authority pursuant to Section 50 of the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* –  
Anthony Paul Gunning  
Phillip Gregory Howe  
Christopher Alan Jackson  
Christopher Kevin Roweth  
Laurence John Waddell  
Leslie Arthur Willott

**Resolved in the affirmative**

**Item F –Investments and available funds**

The General Manager informed the Council that this item was for information only.

**Item G – Correspondence and information**

The General Manager informed the Council that this item was for information only.

**Moved** Councillor Francis

**Seconded** Councillor Kingham

**That** the report of the General Manager be adopted.

**Certificate**

This is page 3 of 4 pages of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Upper Macquarie County Council held at the Council Chambers, Kelso on Friday, 20December 2013.

Chairman..... General Manager.....



**Resolved in the affirmative**

**General Business**

There was no General Business.

The Deputy Chairman declared the meeting closed at 3.04 p.m.

**Certificate**

This is page 4 of 4 pages of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Upper Macquarie County Council held at the Council Chambers, Kelso on Friday, 20 December 2013.

Chairman..... General Manager.....