

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER, COONAMBLE ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH
OCTOBER, 2009, COMMENCING AT 9.21 A.M.**

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PRESENT: Cr Tim Horan, Mayor, in the Chair, with Crs. J. Canham, B. O'Brien, D. Schieb, A. Karanouh and T.Cullen.
Also present were the General Manager, Mr Griffiths, the Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Warren, the Director of Engineering Services, Mr. Gamage and Mrs Moorhouse.

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGE ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

Prior to beginning the meeting, the Mayor acknowledged the original owners of the land, both past and present.

4.0 APOLOGY

Cr Webb submitted an apology to the General Manager for non-attendance – due to a family commitment.

8037 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Canham that the apology submitted by Cr. Webb be accepted

5.0 DELEGATIONS

ADDRESS BY SUPERINTENDENT TONY PLACE – NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

At this juncture, the Mayor welcomed Superintendent Tony Place to the meeting to address Council on the 10 Year Strategic Plan 2009 – 2018 for the North West Zone of the Rural Fire Service. Supt. Place said that Group Captains have signed off and the Plan has been on public exhibition.

He gave a brief overview on why the plan was developed – he said there were no long term goals or directions – and with the adoption of the Plan all involved in the provision of the Service would benefit. He said it would assist Council with funding commitments, be a valuable guide to volunteers and provide future direction for the Service.

Councillor Cullen arrived at the meeting at 9.25 a.m.

When asked why Bogan was not included in the Zone, Supt Place said it was worried about losing its autonomy. He said that Bogan is a completely separate financial entity. Supt Place pointed out that one-quarter of the wages of all staff, telephone charges and day to day running expenses are charged to Bogan – so it is not being “carried” by the other three Councils within the Zone.

The Director of Corporate Services informed Council that Supt Place is very diligent in the allocation of costs.

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Council was advised that should a large scale emergency arise, it would be administered from the Headquarters in Coonamble. Supt Place said that an Emergency Management Centre has been established within the Headquarters building and invited Councillors to inspect the set up, which he classed as excellent.

Supt. Place was asked whether the RFS is responsible for HAZMAT – he replied that these incidents are handled by NSW Fire Brigades with support from the Rural Fire Service. He discussed types of training that is undertaken that is provided for volunteers by the RFS. Council noted that with the rural decline there have been a reduction in the number of volunteers, however Supt Place said that recruitment programs will be conducted over the next 12 months.

When asked about the Service's involvement with National Parks, Supt. Place said that if the RFS receives a letter of concern/complaint, it can inspect the area and recommend appropriate action.

At this juncture, 9.51 a.m., the Mayor thanked Superintendent Place for his presentation and he left the meeting.

6.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were declared for today's meeting.

7.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

8038 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the minutes of the Special Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 9 September, 2009, be confirmed, with the following amendment:

4 (f) Coonamble Heritage & Historical Museum Committee:

Councillors Webb & O'Brien

NOT Councillors Webb & Cullen

8039 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held 9 September 2009 be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

(a) Fencing – Commercial Hotel/Council

In response to a question from Cr Schieb, the General Manager said he had not heard of any problems with this project, pointing out that the Heritage Advisor met with the owner of the Hotel recently and the old wash-house can be removed.

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(b) Gulargambone Lions Club – Park Fencing

Cr. Canham asked whether a meeting has been held with Gulargambone Lions Club members regarding the type of barricade/fencing it requires at the Gular Park. The Director of Engineering Services said that he has not taken action on this matter as yet.

(c) Tree near Shire Administration Centre

The Mayor again referred to this matter pointing out that a replacement tree has not been planted. He said this matter is long outstanding, stating that when the tree had to be removed, Council requested that an advanced tree of the same type be planted at the location.

(d) Demand Farming

Cr. Cullen asked whether a response has been received from Demand Farming – the General Manager said no formal written advice has been received, however the Economic Development Manager has been in contact by phone and email. The General Manager said that the matter will be followed up.

(e) Castlereagh Highway – Weekend Work

Cr. Schieb referred to this matter and asked whether information was available on why Council commenced a section of work on the Highway on a Saturday. The General Manager advised that the work was actually completed on Saturday, with sealing taking place the following week.

8.0 RESOLUTION BOOK UPDATE

8040 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Schieb that the Resolution Book Update be received and dealt with.

(a) Future of Sporting Fields (Min No. 7812)

Cr Cullen referred to the status given for this item - he said all sporting clubs had the opportunity to send representatives to the meeting – noting that neither the Junior nor Senior Rugby League was represented. He said the matter is proceeding – and the status is “Complete”.

(b) Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation Ltd (Min No. 7911)

Cr. O'Brien referred to the incorrect advice given initially – the audit should be carried out on Kirban Street, Gulargambone (between Armitree and Yoolundry Streets).

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(c) Rotary Club of Coonamble Inc (Min No.7924)

Cr. Schieb informed the meeting that Rotary Club members have met with officers from the RTA, Dubbo Office, concerning requirements to erect toilets at the Rest Area on the Castlereagh Highway just north of Coonamble township. He said that the Club will be submitting an application to Council for the erection of the toilets as soon as practicable.

DELEGATION – COONAMBLE AGENTS & GRAZIERS – DISCUSSION REGARDING COONAMBLE SHEEP SALEYARDS COMPLEX.

A deputation of agents and graziers was welcomed to the meeting to discuss Council's call for comments regarding a proposal to sell the sheep saleyards facility. Also present at the meeting at this time was Mrs Lee O'Connor, Council's Economic Development Manager.

The Mayor pointed out that there was nothing at all "on the books" at the present time – the enterprise for which the area was required was not going to proceed from that location. Cr Horan said that Council was trying to gauge the feelings of the public prior to making a further move.

The first to speak was Kevin Keady who was strongly opposed to the proposal – saying Council should not even consider selling the facility. He congratulated Council on its forward thinking to provide land for a business, but said Council should not proceed with any move to dispose of the facility. Mr. Simon Fagan supported Mr Keady and said there must be other land that would have been suitable. He said that if Council did dispose of the current facility it would have to provide another complex at a suitable location. The Mayor pointed out that Council considered it may impose that responsibility on the purchaser.

The General Manager informed those present that there has not been just one enquiry for the sheep saleyards and adjoining land – he said that over recent times he has received a total of four – all for different types of development.

Mr. John Gouge, from Elders, was next to address Council. He said he was not in favour of disposing of the facility, saying that once a facility such as this is removed, it is very difficult to get back. Adam Robinson, from Landmark, said that agents and growers both need the facility and use it for yarding sheep for inspection. He said that while the yards are there, there is always the possibility of re-commencing sheep sales.

The Mayor read to the meeting Council's resolution from the July 2009 meeting to seek feedback from the community, consult with agents and producers, and pointed out that is what Council is doing at this time.

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Cr Horan said it would be remiss of Council not to consider proposals that would benefit the community as a whole – he indicated that Council will continue to carefully consider any business proposal put forward. It was the feeling of the delegation that Council should not, in the future, even consider selling the Coonamble sheep saleyards facility – it should categorically state that the yards/land are not for sale.

Cr. Schieb pointed out that all Council wanted was feedback regarding the proposal and said the attendance of the delegation was appreciated.

Council's Economic Development Manager, Mrs Lee O'Connor, sought an indication from the delegation of the requirements of agents/buyers/producers if the facility was relocated, however was advised that consultation would have to take place with all involved, but it was intimated the same capacity would be required.

After a lengthy debate, the Mayor thanked the delegation and invited members to join Council for morning tea. The meeting adjourned at 10.40 a.m. and resumed at 11.01 a.m.

At this juncture, Lee O'Connor, Council's Economic Development Manager returned to present her report.

15.0 REPORT BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

8041 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the report by the Economic Development Manager be received and dealt with.

The following issues were discussed:

- 2009 Business Awards – advising Gala Dinner was held at Cobar on 10 October – resulting in awards being presented to the Gulargambone Caravan Park and Trainee of the Year was Brendon Hammond from Twoeighttwoeight.

8042 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to recipients of both these prestigious awards.

- Saleyards Planning – waiting on letters of support to forward application for funding – have \$8,000 and making application for \$8,000. Needs the plan to be strategically practical, with concrete steps identified to bolster the yards.
- Skills Attraction Strategy – advised joint application by Coonamble, Warrumbungle, Gilgandra, Brewarrina and Bourke Shires – DSRD has made offer of funding – pointed out funds offered by Orana ACC no longer available.
- Industrial Estate Expansion – application for funding to Round 2 of the State Government's Local Infrastructure Support Fund. Council noted that if the application is not successful, the development will be staged.

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- Various grant applications – Showground arena cover – requested more information – application made under the Jobs Fund for \$2.1m. Warrena Weir not funded. Railway Station restoration and re-use - \$144,000 received to reinstate platform, water tanks, install amenities and perimeter fencing.
- Quambone Draft Community Strategic Plan – submitted with the agenda. Stated it's a five year plan which will help the community and Council to work together on goals set. The plan will be reviewed half yearly. EDM said the fuel outlet was the community's main priority.

8043 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council endorse the draft Quambone Community Strategic Plan as submitted to the meeting, noting that Council was not committing funding at this time.

8044 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Schieb and Karanouh that the General Manager authorise staff to carry out inspections on overgrown and unsightly blocks within the village of Quambone and issue Orders as required.

8045 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the report by the Economic Development Manager be adopted.

15.1 MINUTES OF EMPLOYMENT CIRCLE MEETING

8046 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that the minutes of the Employment Circle meeting held on 22 September, 2009 be noted.

9.0 MAYOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT

The Mayor gave a verbal account of his activities throughout the month, which included the following:

- Moorambilla Festival – another very successful festival and art show. Cr. Horan sought clarification in regard to funding from Council for the Festival enquiring whether it could be paid direct to Moorambilla. The General Manager advised this could be done as it was within the terms of the agreement. Cr. Horan said the only complaints he received concerned no food outlets being open on Saturday afternoon. The General Manager suggested it would probably be more fruitful for Moorambilla to write to food outlets direct, asking why they were not operating on Saturday afternoon and endeavouring to come to some suitable arrangement for the 2010 festival.

8047 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Horan and O'Brien that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to the Moorambilla Committee on the success of the Festival.

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- Greyhound carnival – good weekend of racing – economic boost to the business sector – not only over the weekend – many trainers stay for one – two weeks prior to the carnival.
- Attended annual meeting of Commoners – adjourned from 25 September to 13 October.
- Business Seminar – very good presentation
- Letter to the Editor – pointed out that a response was sent to a letter to the Editor – setting out the facts of Council's procurement policy.
- Informed the meeting that the General Manager has agreed to stay for an additional 12 months. Thanked the General Manager for his decision.

8048 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Horan and Canham that the Mayor's Activity Report be received and adopted.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

8049 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the Correspondence be received and dealt with.

Section A Consideration by Council

10.1 COONAMBLE COMMUNITY SHED D5-25 (30832)

Under Council's Application for financial Assistance 2009/2010 applying for an amount of \$4,000 to spend on maintenance of machines, payment of electricity account and various expenses associated with activities. Stating the aim of the Community shed is to help men's health and provide community activities and funding would assist in these objectives.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Coonamble Community Shed has completed the required application form and provided all relevant information. Mr. Griffiths said that Council recently provided the organization with a significant amount of timber towards the building of a toilet facility within the complex. He pointed out that this application had delayed being put to Council awaiting specific information.

8050 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that Council not agree to the provision of \$4,000 towards various ongoing expenses associated with operating the Coonamble Community Shed and confirm the decision of the Mayor in donating unused bridge timber to the organization.

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10.2 NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL R8-18 (31235)

Writing in regard to the independent review of the classification of State and Regional roads within NSW and advising the significant change to their road network is the reclassification of Main Road 89 (Tomingley to Narromine) from a State Road to a Regional Road. Seeking various information from Council and asking that it be provided by 2 October, 2009.

The General Manager said that, as previously reported to Council, there have been no alterations in this Shire and that information was conveyed to Narromine Shire Council, with an offer to support its efforts in respect of reclassification of State and Regional Roads.

8051 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council confirm the action taken and continue to support Narromine Shire Council in its efforts in respect of reclassification of State and Regional Roads.

10.3 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE B13 (31186)

Forwarding copy of 10 year Business Plan for the North West Zone and Bogan District. Saying that if Council is satisfied with the concept of the plan, asking it to sign off. Pointing out that the Plan will strengthen the already good working relationship between Council and the North West Zone & Bogan District.

Council noted that Mr. Anthony Place, Zone Manager, addressed Council earlier in the day.

8052 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council formally adopt the 10 Year Business Plan for the North West Zone and authorise the General Manager to sign off on the Plan as requested.

10.4 COONAMBLE BRANCH COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NSW R4 (31252)

Requesting that Council consider a refund of the General Rate portion of the Association's account. Advising the rates amounting to \$730.00 were paid in full earlier in the year.

Council noted that the General Rate portion of the account amounts to \$392 and that this rebate has been granted annually in the past.

8053 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council agree to refund the general rate portion of the Coonamble Branch CWA assessment, amounting to \$392.00

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**10.5 NSW HEALTH – CENTRE FOR ORAL HEALTH STRATEGY W1
(31239)**

Referring to Council's letter concerning the implementation of water fluoridation to the Coonamble shire water supply. Confirming that NSW Health will provide 100% subsidy for the installation of the two additional fluoridation plants in line with design advice from the NSW Office of Water (NOW). Commending Council in taking this important public health initiative.

The General Manager advised that the additional subsidy is the result of significant effort by the Director of Engineering Services and he should be congratulated on the result.

8054 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Cullen that Council formally accept the additional grant funds for two additional fluoridation plants and authorise the affixing of the Common Seal of Council on relevant documents.

10.6 SERVICES, TECHNOLOGY & ADMINISTRATION H5 (31262)

Writing in regard to the administrative arrangements under which local public holidays are appointed following written applications by councils and requesting that any application be submitted before 13 November for public holidays in 2010.

The General Manager informed the meeting that Council receives this letter every year, following which it applies for a local public holiday for the second day of the Coonamble Show. Mr. Griffiths said the 2010 show will be held on 11 & 12 May.

8055 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Canham that, in accordance with past practice, Council make application for gazettal of a public holiday for the second day of the Coonamble, namely Wednesday, 12 May 2010.

10.7 MRS GAYLE RAMIEN S13-1 (31267)

Requesting permission to use Coonamble pool prior to the official opening of the swimming season as she has a medical condition requiring her to exercise without weight bearing. Saying she is happy to pay for a family season ticket in advance.

The General Manager reported that Mrs Ramien's request was received on 18 September and the official opening of the swimming season is set down for 6 October. He informed the meeting that the request was declined on the basis that there would be no lifeguard on duty.

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Mr. Griffiths pointed out the Swimming Club's request was granted on the basis that constant supervision is available from the trainers for their members mitigating the need for lifeguards to be on duty and that there was no cost to Council.

Council debated this matter at length discussing insurance liability, training opportunities for local swimmers, the use of the facility for longer periods taking into account the installation of the blankets.

8056 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Schieb that Council endorse the action of the General Manager in declining Mrs Ramien's request to use the Coonamble pool prior to the commencement of the swimming season.

10.8 PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS COUNCIL G2-1 (31276)

Advising that the Spatial Summit will be held on 23 and 24 November 2009 in Sydney and inviting the General Manager to attend. Saying that it is value at \$200 for the two day conference and the most effective forum to discuss issues associated with E-Planning, Climate Change and population growth and the integrated use of spatial data to meet current and future local government needs.

8057 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council authorise the General Manager to grant permission for staff involved in this area to attend at his discretion.

10.9 KEVIN HUMPHRIES MP, MEMBER FOR BARWON A11 (31297)

Inviting Council to be part of the Outback Art Exhibition at NSW Parliament House and requesting consideration for financial assistance. Estimating that each artist will incur costs of approximately \$1,500 to attend the event and Council's assistance with sponsoring one or more would be appreciated to cover some of the costs and support the western NSW arts community. Stating that a catalogue/tourist brochure will be created promoting the artists and their areas as well as recognizing all sponsor support.

The General Manager said it appears none of the artists are from the Coonamble Shire Council area and it is considered that Council already contributes a significant amount to Outback Arts by way of rental for office premises and support for local artists to send work to the Campbelltown Art Festival annually.

8058 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that Council not agree to contribute towards artists' expenses associated with the Outback Art Exhibition at NSW Parliament House which will be held during November 2010.

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**10.10 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE F5-4
(31333)**

Referring to Coonamble levee design fee proposal and acknowledging receipt of proposal for designs. Noting commitment of Council and saying they would like to assist Council to make necessary arrangements with regard to the provision of safety of residents as appropriate.

Council noted that a report has been prepared on this matter and is part of the Director of Engineering Services report to open meeting.

8059 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that this matter be deferred and considered in conjunction with the Director of Engineering Services report.

**10.11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW
S7 (31360)**

Seeking information from councils that will assist in negotiating equitable arrangements for local government regarding emergency services levy. Advising that from 1 July 2009 the State Emergency Service (SES) is being funded under the same arrangements as the NSW Fire Brigades (NSWFB) and Rural Fire Services (RFS). Pointing out that as part of the change, local government's financial contribution across the three emergency services has been standardised at 11.7% of the combined budget – the former fire services levy is now referred to as the Emergency Services Levy (ESL). Saying it would be greatly appreciated if Council could provide information to assist the Associations..

The General Manager informed Council that the LGSA set out a list of questions for response by Council. He said it appears some councils feel aggrieved by the introduction of the new system and it is apparent that the SES has concerns in respect of a lesser contribution from many councils.

8060 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council agree to maintain a similar level of contribution towards the local SES for the 2010/2011 year and that a response be provided to the LGSA as requested.

10.12. SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT de PAUL S13 + D7 (31384)

Applying for season tickets for eight people with disabilities in permanent residence at Greene Villa. Advising that in the past Council has supplied a Family Ticket to enable clients and carers to go to the pool for training for the Tri-State Games in Stawell, Victoria.

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The General Manager said Council has treated the residents at Greene Villa and their carers as a 'family' in respect of a family pass to the Coonamble Pool for the past three or so years.

8061 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that Council agree to the residents and carers of Greene Villa being granted a Family Pass which will entitle them admission to the Coonamble Pool during the current swimming season.

10.13. GULARGAMBONE TIDY TOWNS (COL RYAN) D7 (31380)

Advising that this year's Tidy Towns Awards are at Tamworth from 30 October to 1 November 2009 and four delegates from Gulargambone are attending. Asking Council if it would sponsor registration for the three days and pointing out that the cost will be \$549.00. Forwarding a copy of the registration form for Council's information.

Cr. O'Brien declared an interest in this matter and took no part in discussions or voting.

The General Manager said that owing to the success of Gulargambone in the Tidy Towns Competition in previous years Council has, in the past, agreed to meet the registration costs for the Awards Evening.

8062 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Schieb that Council agree to contribute \$549, funded from the Donations Vote, to register the four delegates of the Gulargambone Tidy Towns Committee at the Awards Evening which will be held in Tamworth from 30 October – 1 November, 2009.

Section B – Matters for Information Only:

10.14 GULARGAMBONE WAR MEMORIAL MECHANICS INSTITUTE HALL COMMITTEE C6-12-1

Forwarding copy of the minutes of the annual general meeting held on 23 August, 2009 together with Financial Statements as at 30 June, 2009 in accordance with requirements as a Section 355 Committee of Council.

This information must be supplied to Council in accordance with requirements as the Committee is a Council Committee under Section 355. A copy of the statement was attached as an appendix to the agenda.

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10.15 UNITED SERVICES UNION S6-2 (31248)

Referring to the annual assessment and individual training plan for employees and the “failure of Council to provide training”. Advising it has been brought to the Union’s attention that a number of USU members have been advised through their annual assessments of the training required to progress through Council’s salary system. Requesting that progression is allowed to occur and that Council provide the required training as soon as practicable. Saying the local delegate will provide a list of affected members.

The General Manager informed the meeting that review of personnel training plans reveals there are many instances of training being offered but not agreed to by employees. Mr. Griffiths said there are a small number of instances where training has not been offered, but in the spirit of the skills based Award, it is doubtful - following consultation with the Industrial Section of the LGSA - that progression should be agreed to.

10.16 WESTERN STUDENT CONNECTIONS E1-1 (31254)

Thanking Council for its willingness to participate in the work placement program for the Higher School Certificate Course in Tourism. Advising that Lachlan Reynolds will attend Council for this work placement program between 19 October and 23 October. Providing other details relevant to the placement. Again thanking Council for participating in this valuable business/education partnership.

10.17 ATTORNEY-GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT (CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION) S2-1 (31272)

Thanking Council for its application for funding to extend the CCTV network at the Skate Park and advising that it was unsuccessful on this occasion. Saying Council’s details have been included in the Register of Interest and the Department will contact Council when future funding opportunities arise.

10.18 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE B13 (31283)

Referring to the Combara Rural Fire Brigade Station and advising the project was completed on time and on budget. Thanking Council staff who were involved with the project.

10.19 HON WARREN SNOWDON MP, MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS HEALTH, RURAL AND REGIONAL HEALTH & REGIONAL SERVICES DELIVERY M5-3 (31296)

Thanking Council for its letter regarding the NSW Air Ambulance contract and noting its concerns. Recognising that many Australians living and working in the bush rely on the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) to provide primary health care and, in crisis situations, aero-medical evacuations.

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Pointing out that the Australian Government has been funding the RFDS under various arrangements since the early 1930s and is committed to funding the Service to continue to provide primary health care services to people living in rural and remote Australia. Advising the Australian Government will provide up to \$247 million (GST exclusive) to the RFDS for health care and aero-medical evacuations for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2011.

Saying the Australian Government will continue to monitor the outcome of the tender process for patient transportation between hospitals in NSW and consider any impact on the capacity of the RFDS to deliver health services on behalf of the Australian Government.

10.20 THE HON MAXINE McKEW MP G5-40 (31318)

Thanking the Mayor for his work to date in implementing the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP). Advising that as part of its contract management activities the Department will undertake a series of site visits and spot checks of selected projects in the coming weeks and asking for council's cooperation through this process.

10.21 MAYOR, DUBBO CITY COUNCIL M3 (31317)

Congratulating the Mayor on his re-election for the ensuing term and wishing him best wishes. Looking forward to working closely with the Mayor during this term of office.

10.22 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT S13 (31326)

Writing in connection with Water Safety Week 2009 and reminding councils of their key role in promoting water safety, including backyard swimming pool safety, within each local government area to minimize the risk of injury or death associated with water. Pointing out that the NSW Government's Water Safety Advisory Council will be promoting Water Safety Week 2009 from Friday 2 October to Thursday 8 October 2009 to coincide with the official commencement of the 2009/2010 swimming season.

10.23 MINISTER PHILLIP COSTA MP D5 (31331)

Writing to the Mayor to provide a update on a number of matters including the status of Regional Development Australia (RDA) and advising that the membership of the new RDA Committees has been finalized. Advising that under the Building the Country package, NSW Government has offered financial assistance to a series of projects from the first funding round of the Local Infrastructure Support Fund (LISF) and applications can now be submitted.

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10.24 NETWASTE G1-5 (31344)

Enclosing copy of NetWaste's 2008/2009 annual report and executive summary document which can be downloaded from www.netwaste.org.au. Saying it has again been a busy year and they are appreciative of the ongoing support from member councils.

10.25 CEO, NSW ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY A8 (31364)

Thanking Council for its letter to the Minister for Roads concerning rest areas and toilet facilities on the Castlereagh Highway within Coonamble Shire and responding on behalf of the Minister. Advising that RTA is providing new rest areas and upgrading existing rest areas on the Newell, Great Western and Barrier Highways. Stating these works are being completed under the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program to provide additional heavy vehicle rest areas on key interstate routes. Pointing out there are no similar works planned for the Castlereagh Highway at this time.

10.26 SR CLARE RILEY L3-2 (313893)

Advising the Mayor that the Sisters were touched by his thoughtfulness in sending "such a special letter" to them. Saying the Civic Function was wonderful and their visitors were impressed – Tom (Cr Cullen) was a good MC. Pointing out that, as always, the spirit of Coonamble was alive and well and the Sisters were honoured to be present, receive their gifts and have the chance to thank Council for its support. Saying she is settling in at Maroubra, but misses her friends in Coonamble.

The Mayor referred to a decision that Council would pay for a photograph of Srs. Clare and Finnian to hang in the Administration Centre and requested that the matter be followed up with Mr. Neville Owen.

10.27 LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SHIRES ASSOCIATIONS OF NSW N7 (31225)

Referring to a previous letter sent to Council on the future of weed management in NSW and the possibility of changes to the long standing roles/responsibilities of local government in this area. Stating the Associations have a very strong interest in noxious weed management and are interested in any moves to potentially change the roles and responsibilities of local councils. Advising they have advocated strongly for an extensive, open and comprehensive consultation process with all councils, county councils, weeds authorities, weeds advisory committees and any other local control authority regarding these issues.

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10.28 SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW L9-1 (31244)

Stating that at the Annual Conference in June 2009 a series of motions (27, 28 & L02) were dealt with in relation to LGASS and LGFSW. Advising the subject of these motions was further considered by the Executive following correspondence from a number of Councils. Forwarding copies of responses to Parkes Shire Council in relation to the matter.

The General Manager informed the meeting that these motions were in connection with councils affected by the superannuation levy brought about by the effects of the global economic crisis.

8063 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that the information contained in Item Nos. 10.14 to 10.28 inclusive be noted.

8064 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Cullen that letters be forwarded to the Mayors of surrounding Councils congratulating them on their election.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

8065 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs O'Brien and Cullen that the following items be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

10.29 DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT C13 (31387)

Advising the purpose of the circular is to advise councils of the release of revised *Guidelines for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors* in NSW. Advising that Councils are required to submit their expenses and facilities policies to the Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet by 30 November each year.

The General Manager said Councillors would be aware that this matter is included in his report and a copy of Council's current policy was included with the business paper. Mr Griffiths said that to facilitate these late guidelines, the minor amendments necessary have been included in the current policy to go on public display. He said that full copy of the new policy, along with the Departmental guidelines, will be provided to Councillors for the November meeting.

8066 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that this matter be deferred until later in the day when Council is dealing with the General Manager's report.

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10.30 KEVIN HUMPHRIES, MP – MEMBER FOR BARWON E5-2

Submitting his thoughts on the current planning laws and vision for the future. Advising that currently the Liberal and National Parties are engaged in developing policy framework, giving the community an opportunity to participate and respond. Inviting input to the Coalitions' "Planning for Prosperity" process by writing to him.

The General Manager said he believes Councillors need to be conversant with the direction local planning laws are taking by way of excluding communities from decisions. Mr. Griffiths said that the present system takes all "local" autonomy from the communities affected.

8067 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council note the negative direction planning in New South Wales is taking.

10.31 "C" DIVISION SHIRES ASSOCIATION OF NSW S3-3 (31394)

Congratulating the Mayor on his re-election. Reporting on various issues, including the Association's finances, submission to the inquiry into the September 2008 Local Government Elections, Federal redistribution and the affect it has had on the Parkes Electorate.

Advising the annual "C" Division Conference will be held at Warren early next year and they have the option of the visit by the President and other Shires Association staff attending the Conference at Warren prior to the Annual Conference, or visiting after the Annual Conference in June. Saying that whilst the Conference at Warren will still need to consider motions to be submitted to the Annual Conference, asking Council to advise if it would like to have another meeting after the Annual Conference attended by the Shires Association President and other Staff.

8068 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that Council advise the Association that it would prefer the visit by the President and other Shires Association staff prior to the annual conference.

**10.32 MURDI PAAKI REGIONAL ENTERPRISE CORPORATION A2
(31393)**

Advising that MPREC will be holding a meeting on Thursday (tomorrow) 15 October, 2009 at the Gulargambone CDEP to discuss with its participants ideas for projects that may be implemented within their community (CDEP) and to develop the Community Action Plan which will assist MPREC to tailor the CDEP program to the needs of its participants and families. Inviting representatives to the meeting which will commence at 1.00 p.m.

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The Mayor advised that he would not be available to attend and requested the General Manager to attend and submit an apology on his behalf.

8069 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that the General Manager attend the meeting and submit an apology on behalf of the Mayor.

10.33 CENTRAL WEST CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Advising that as part of a major review of its Catchment Action Plan the Central West Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is holding a series of workshops to determine what environmental features and significant assets are most valued in the Central West Catchments. Extending an invitation to Council to attend the workshop being held in Coonamble on Thursday, 29 October at the Coonamble Bowling Club from 6.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. (including light meal). Pointing out that because these workshops will set the priorities for natural resource management in the Central West Catchments for the next ten years it is important to be represented. Seeking RSVPs as a priority.

8070 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Cullen that RSVPs be forwarded on behalf of Crs. Schieb, O'Brien and the Mayor who will attend the workshop on 29 October at the Coonamble Bowling Club.

10.34 SUBMISSIONS REGARDING THE COONAMBLE SHEEP SALEYARDS

(a) DONALD M NIXON S1 (31396)

Making submission regarding the Coonamble sheep saleyards and suggesting that at least a portion of the yards be retained. Advising that when he inspected the yards he noticed boxthorns which need to be eradicated.

(b) KEVIN KEADY S1

Advising he is strongly opposed to the proposal to sell Coonamble sheep saleyards. Asking permission to address Council briefly on this issue.

(c) CENTRAL WEST LHPA S1

Advising the Authority supports the retention of the sheep saleyards infrastructure in the Coonamble district.

The General Manager informed the meeting that he had received three calls from producers as a result of emails sent via agents or Department of Primary Industry. Full copies of the submissions were provided to Councillors, together with a copy of the email request sent to agents, etc. to forward to their producer clients.

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Council noted that representatives from the Agents' Association and some producers addressed the meeting earlier in the day, all strongly objecting to the sale of the facility.

8071 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that this matter be deferred for determination in conjunction with Item 11.6 of the General Manager's report.

10.35 VEHICLE REGULATIONS MANAGER, NSW ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY, PARKES P4 (31398)

Saying he has been informed that Brett Simpson (Sinclair Knight Merz), acting for the RTA in upgrading Heavy Vehicle Inspection Scheme (HVIS) sites throughout NSW, provided Council with site requirements in November 2008. Saying the RTA's Vehicle Regulations section provides staff to carry out HVIS inspections and RTA real estate section prepares contracts to ensure that all sites meet required guidelines. Pointing out they are not able to attend Council's meeting as requested.

The General Manager pointed out this is a response to Council's request for the revised requirements for Heavy Vehicle Inspection Stations.

Council debated this issue at length. The General Manager said it is obvious that requirements for HVIS have not changed, however Cr. Schieb said Council should pursue the matter further. Cr. O'Brien suggested obtaining quotes to build a facility, pointing out that a firm in Moree can install a pit at an economical rate. She said that, in her opinion, Council should provide the service to its ratepayers.

The General Manager said if Council proposes to obtain quotes, where would the facility be located, who would pay for it? The Director of Corporate Services informed the meeting that if Council uses reserve funds, something else will not be done – the only other way would be to secure loan funds. Cr Karanouh suggested that one of the proponents on Council's new industrial area may consider providing the facility.

8072 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and Karanouh that the General Manager provide Councillors with the original requirements for HVIS sites (provided to Council late 2008 by the RTA).

8073 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Schieb that Council put pressure on the Roads and Traffic Authority to fund a Heavy Vehicle Inspection Service in Coonamble.

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10.36 AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LTD (ARTC) R2 (31400)

Advising ARTC intends to introduce a new train working method on the Dubbo to Coonamble branch line known as train Order Working (TOW) which will enable a train to travel non-stop between Dubbo and Coonamble. Advising that the new working will begin from Sunday 8 November, 2009.

8074 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council:

- (1) Review signage and road markings at the affected level crossing as a matter of urgency and effect changes not later than 26 October 2009;
- (2) Advertise the alterations to train speeds through the Gulargambone Community News.

10.37 UNITED SERVICES UNION A19 (31404)

Saying that in July 2009 the Union advised concern that the safety of council officers was being put at risk in relation to the enforcement of Alcohol Free Zones by the confiscation of alcohol. Thanking Councils who completed the survey – advising that a total of 79 responses were received.

The General Manager informed the meeting that this matter was presented to Council's August meeting, when it was advised that Council has no staff authorised to confiscate alcohol with that duty being left to the NSW Police Service. Mr. Griffiths said that Council cannot authorise contractors to perform this duty and he responded to the Union's concerns following the August meeting.

8075 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the information be noted.

10.38 ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF NSW E2 (31408)

Forwarding two copies of a report on the conduct and administration of Council's 2008 election, which provides detail of feedback received from stakeholders as well as election details specific to the election. Advising that further copies can be downloaded from www.elections.nsw.gov.au Asking that if Council identifies any factual errors in the report that they be brought to the Commission's attention by 30 October, after which the reports will go on the website.

The General Manager tabled a copy of the report at the meeting.

8076 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council authorise the General Manager to respond to the Electoral Commission identifying any factual errors contained in the report on the conduct and administration of Council's 2008 Election.

10.39 CANCER COUNCIL OF NSW, ORANGE

Advising that the Healthy Communities grant scheme for local government was launched on 15 September and all NSW councils, Local Aboriginal Land Councils and Regional Organisations of Councils can now apply for grants for health promoting initiatives which address health inequities. Stating the grants will range from up to \$20,000 for individual Councils and up to \$80,000 for groups of councils. Advising the grant scheme is funded by NSW Health and coordinated by the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW.

The General Manager advised that information in respect of this Grant Scheme has been forwarded to a number of local organisations without response. He said discussions at the OROC meeting revealed that a joint application across the region could have significant impact on one or more of the target groups and, to this end, feasibility is being examined and participation should be possible along with other OROC councils.

8077 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council authorise participation in an OROC joint proposition should no local groups be forthcoming with a timely proposal.

10.40 COONAMBLE VETERINARY SURGERY D6

Advising of the results of the subsidised desexing scheme conducted during October to which Council contributed \$2,000 and providing details on how Council's \$2,000 was allocated. Advising that Council's Ranger was involved in transporting pets to and from the surgery, especially for Gulargambone residents. Suggesting that the scheme be conducted every second year and that an article be supplied for the Coonamble Times outlining the success of the scheme and Council's positive input.

8078 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that Council note the information provided and thank the Coonamble Veterinary Surgery, along with Council's Contract Ranger, for conducting the scheme.

PRESENTATION TO MRS RONNIE MILLSTEED

At this juncture, 12.47 p.m., Mrs. Millstead was welcomed to the meeting. The Mayor congratulated Ronnie on her 31 years' service to Council and wished her well in retirement. Cr. Horan made a presentation on behalf of Council and Staff. Ronnie thanked Council for its gift and left the meeting.

11.0 REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

8079 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the report submitted by the General Manager be received and dealt with.

11.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS DETERMINED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

8080 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council note Development Application Nos. 031/2009, 032/2009, 038/2009 – 041/2009 and 044/2009, together with Complying Development Application Nos. 034/2009 and 043/2009, have been approved under delegated authority since the last meeting.

BUILDING REQUIREMENTS – SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

8081 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Schieb and O'Brien that Council place an article and/or advertisements in the local press notifying residents, both urban and rural, of their responsibilities in regard to applications for buildings, noting that many people are not aware of requirements.

11.2 DRAFT POLICY – UNION PICNIC DAY

In response to a resolution from the September 2009 meeting, the General Manager presented a draft policy in regard to future Union Picnic holidays.

Mr. Griffiths referred to the Local Government (State) Award 2007 and pointed out that prior to the Award being applicable to this Council, Federal legislation prevented discrimination by employers between Union and non-Union members. Mr. Griffiths stated that Council was returned to the State Jurisdiction late last year. He said for many years Council allowed all Council staff to participate in Union Picnic day by one of the following:

- No action was required by non-financial members of the Union.
- The taking of annual leave or accrued time.

The General Manager informed the meeting that operational difficulties are created when some staff are required to work while approximately 70% have a public holiday. However, he said, it is obvious in the Award that non-financial members of Unions may be allocated such other leave as may be approved by Council. The General Manager said that failure by Council to have a recognized policy in place could result in industrial action being taken by the Unions.

8082 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that Council adopt a policy which will:

- (1) Continue to allow non-financial members to observe Union Picnic day.
- (2) Require non-financial members of a Union to submit a leave application in accordance with the Award for either annual leave, time in lieu of overtime or leave without pay.
- (3) Ensure that the Local Government (State) Award provisions relating to Union Picnic Day be observed.

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- (4) Advertise the policy for twenty eight days inviting public comment and adopt the policy, in conjunction with any submissions received, at the Council's December meeting.

11.3 POLICY FOR PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES TO MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

The General Manager provided Council with a verbal report on this matter, which supersedes the written report in the Business Paper. Mr. Griffiths brought Councillors up to date with amendments to the current policy when Council was dealing with a letter from the Department of Local Government. Mr. Griffiths also provided an amended copy of the current policy.

8083 RESOLVED on the motion of Karanouh and O'Brien that Council plant the amended Policy for Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Mayor and Councillors on public exhibition for the prescribed 28 day period and invite comment **AND FURTHER** that the Policy be formally adopted at the November meeting, taking into account any submissions received.

At this juncture, 1.01 p.m. the meeting adjourned for lunch and resumed at 2.05 p.m.

11.4 DISCUSSION PAPER – USE OF SHOWGROUND PAVILION

The General Manager referred to Council's indication at the September 2009 meeting that it wished to have 'in-depth' discussions in respect of the use of the Showground Pavilion. Mr. Griffiths said that to facilitate those discussions staff has formulated some points which he listed in his report for Council's consideration. He pointed out that care will need to be taken to ensure insurance coverage for commercial type activities indemnifies Council.

The General Manager drew Councillors' attention to the fact that Council currently has a policy excluding outside traders from its facilities and this policy will need to be over-written should Council wish to go down that line. Mr. Griffiths referred to comments received that small local groups cannot afford to utilize the excellent facilities contained in the Pavilion and the question of hire charges should be addressed in that light.

The Mayor did not wish to suspend Standing Orders to allow roundtable discussion and Councillors provided input. Fees for use of the pavilion facility, both adopted and those suggested by the General Manager, were discussed at length.

Cr. Schieb asked whether any forward costing was available to install showers and toilet facilities in the pavilion. The General Manager advised that no costings are available, however the infrastructure is available. Cr Schieb

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suggested that the availability of the facility should be put on Council's website. Cr. Horan said Council should advertise the facility in the Coonamble Times and include prices. The General Manager sought direction regarding outside vendors – Cr. Schieb suggested that Council retain its current policy. Councillors noted that Council has no chairs/tables for hire with the pavilion.

8084 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that the following table of fees be adopted and staff seek prices for tables and chairs that would be suitable to hire, both with the facility and separately:

Facility	Up to 20 persons (\$)	21 – 50 persons (\$)	51 – 100 persons (\$)	100 plus persons (\$)
Pavilion Only	40	75	120	200
Pavilion & Kitchen	70	130	200	320
Pavilion & Bar	70	130	200	320
Pavilion, Kitchen & Bar	100	185	280	440
Kitchen Only	30	55	80	120
Bar Only	30	55	80	120
Kitchen & Bar	60	110	160	240

It should be noted that all groups will be required to pay a Security Deposit of \$400 and a Key Deposit of \$150 (both refundable subject to facility being left in a clean and tidy condition and key returned to Council).

11.5 OPERATION OF MAGOMETON QUARRY

The General Manager referred to the report submitted to the September meeting which showed a poor performance in profit achieved at the Quarry and the subsequent request from Councillor Schieb for a detailed explanation of the cost of materials supplied by the Quarry to both Council and outside purchasers.

The General Manager pointed out that a detailed report addressing salient points which affected 2008/2009 profit were verbally conveyed to Council by the Director of Corporate Services. He said Council needs to be aware that a standard working week at the Quarry for each of the five employees is 38 hours however this is spread over a nine day fortnight. The General Manager pointed out the capacity is considered, at this time, to be around 35 tonne per hour depending on type of material produced, with road base capabilities being 100 tonne per hour.

Mr. Griffiths said that serious consideration needs to be given by Council to the current level of production brought about by high external demand mainly for aggregate for works within Walgett Shire being supplied under contract to a local haulage firm which entails a discount rate of 3%. He said another large contractor purchases slightly less product but sales are still significant.

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Cr Schieb said that overall costing at the quarry should be reviewed. Cr. Cullen suggested that councillors who have not seen the quarry in operation should do so and it was agreed that the Director of Engineering Services would arrange for them to visit. Cr. O'Brien said she was concerned there was no stockpile at the quarry as a backup for Council's works if a breakdown occurred.

The General Manager reported that if Council wishes to eliminate overtime from the operation of the Quarry it will be necessary to phase out sales to the public, particularly aggregate supply that is under contract by the local haulage firm to Walgett Shire. He said the discount currently provided equates to approximately \$18,000 per annum and the question must be asked why Council is subsidizing works within Walgett Shire or, alternatively, a local business. Mr. Griffiths said that maintenance costs continue to be high due to requirements of the Mines Department which must be met.

Council agreed that the quarry operation must be conducted as a business with product being sold at market price, making it necessary to phase out discounts. It was also agreed to obtain selling prices of other quarries products.

Mr. Griffiths stated that the current level of production is well above the design of the crushing plant and it is obvious, by the maintenance required over the past two years, it is showing signs of wear and tear. One of the matters raised was whether the plant is too light for the product that it has to crush. The General Manager said the operation is constantly under review with the staff staggering their rostered days off to minimize the impact on production levels. Council noted that at the present time the Quarry is operating five days per week for 10.5 hours per day but in peak times a six day week is utilized.

Mr. Griffiths suggested that Council revisit this matter following the half year review and in the meantime monitor progress each month. The General Manager provided Council with details of overtime accrued at the Quarry over the past four years and a projection for the current year.

8085 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council continue operations at the quarry, monitor on a monthly basis, set market price for product and advise customers that discount will no longer apply.

11.6 COONAMBLE SHEEP SALEYARDS – AVAILABILITY FOR SALE

Councillors noted that this matter was discussed at length earlier in the day during the address by agents representatives and others who all voiced strong opposition to the sale of the sheep saleyards facility.

Councillors also noted the report prepared by the General Manager on the matter.

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The General Manager informed the meeting that following three separate enquiries in relation to the sale of land adjoining the yards and the yards themselves, Council needs to give him direction as to whether any or all of the land is available for sale, noting that it is a prime site and could increasingly be the subject of discussions. He pointed out that the land is freehold and, as such, can be sold by Council following subdivision.

8086 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Canham that the Coonamble sheep saleyards not be sold and not be the subject of negotiation for any proposal in the future.

Cr O'Brien requested that her name be recorded as voting against this resolution.

11.7 LAND USE STRATEGY

The General Manager reported that Council has reviewed each step in the process of developing a Land Use Strategy which will form the basis of a new LEP. He said submissions received have been considered by the Consultant and comment made on each, pointing out that a copy of the summary was attached to the agenda.

Mr Griffiths said the results achieved reflect the lack of demand for certain types of development, such as additional residential areas to be developed and, in particular, rural residential potentials. He said the size of the rural allotments capable of having residential dwellings erected remains at the current level of 1,000 hectares.

The General Manager stated that Council should note whilst a LEP purports to be "local" any alterations need the support of the Department of Planning and the instruction to commence this process was delivered by legislative action compelling all councils in NSW to prepare a new LEP within five years that follows the standard template format. He said that process has now been "reprioritized" and may not be completed for at least two years.

Council noted that to complete the LEP process, a further \$60,000 to \$80,000 will be required and whilst it is possible to gain funding through the Department of Planning, further application will be fruitless until the two year period has elapsed.

The General Manager said Council should work through actions proposed and provide submissions from people who want to buy in particular areas, as well as monitor all demand processes both in town and rural 100 acres blocks. Cr. Schieb suggested that Council reject the size of rural allotments and endeavour to change them from 1000ha to 200ha.

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The General Manager reminded Council of its responsibility to provide water supply, sewerage services and waste management to new developments. The Mayor suggested that Ginty Estate should be put on the agenda for redevelopment and/or sale.

8087 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Schieb that Council:

- (1) Formally adopt the Western Councils Land Use Strategy, with the following two amendments, noting that further review will be necessary prior to developing a new Local Environmental Plan under the standard template format:
 - (i) area from town boundary south to 8 Mile Park on the Castlereagh Highway be zoned 'rural residential' and identified for subdivision
 - (ii) minimum rural subdivision reduce from 1000ha to 200ha. in respect of permitting a residence to be built.
- (2) Undertake annual monitoring of residential, rural residential, industrial and commercial land to provide accurate development data;
- (3) Instruct staff to commence the actions identified throughout the report with a view to finalization by December 2011;
- (4) Commence review of the Land Use Strategy in July 2011 to include results of the monitoring process on demand for residential, rural residential, industrial, commercial and smaller rural allotments;
- (5) Seek quotations immediately from planning consultants for a rezoning application of land situated at the Coonamble Aerodrome with a view to developing the potential Sky Park.

URGENT BUSINESS – SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY GENERAL MANAGER

8088 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the following matter be classified 'urgent business' and dealt with.

11.8 ORANA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (OROC) – GENERAL MANAGERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GMAC)

The General Manager drew Councillors' attention to the change to the OROC Constitution that sets up a new entity – GMAC. He said that body reports directly to the OROC Board and is assisted in its endeavours by a recently appointed Executive Officer, Belinda Colless. Mr. Griffiths said he attended the inaugural meeting of GMAC was held on 9 October, 2009 at Narromine.

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Council noted that professional teams have been set up for:

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) | Electricity | Ashley Weilinga (Warren GM) |
| (2) | Procurement | John Griffiths |
| (3) | Health | Mark Riley (Dubbo GM). |
| (4) | Internal Audit | Glenda Tasker (Brewarrina GM) |
| (5) | Integrated Planning and Reporting | Ian Rogan (Narromine GM). |

The General Manager said that in addition to the workgroups above, discussion took place on the recent roads reclassification, healthy communities grant funding, stock-take of each member council's involvement in alliances/workgroups/committees, the Local Government Award review and the OROC Board Meeting to be held on 23 October 2009. Council noted that both the Mayor and General Manager will attend the meeting.

8089 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the contents of the report and the enhanced operation of OROC be noted.

12.0 REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

8090 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Karanouh and O'Brien that the report by the Director of Corporate Services be received and dealt with.

12.1 RATE COLLECTIONS

The Director of Corporate Services informed the meeting that the amount of abandoned rates due to the sale of land to date is \$98,085.44. Mr. Warren said that a final wrap up of sale of land will be submitted to the November meeting.

8091 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and Schieb that the Total Combined Rate Collections to 30 September 2009 be noted.

12.2 LIST OF INVESTMENTS

The Director of Corporate Services informed Council that when investing with some of financial institutions on Council's behalf he was paying for the Government Guarantee. Council agreed that the levy for Government Guarantee no longer be paid on investments.

8092 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that that the Investments held at 30 September 2009 be noted and it also be noted that Council's Investments comply with s625(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Council's Investment Policy.

12.3 RETURNS – DISCLOSING PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Director of Corporate Services referred to Section 449 of the Local Government Act 1993 which requires councillors and designated persons to complete the returns. Mr. Warren informed the meeting he has returns from all councillors, staff and most members of Council's 355 Committees.

8093 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Schieb that Council note the tabling of returns disclosing interests of councillors and designated persons for period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.

12.4 NORTH WESTERN LIBRARY COOPERATIVE

The Director of Corporate Services informed the meeting that Council is a member of the North Western Library, a cooperative of the Shires of Bogan, Coonamble, Gilgandra and Warren, for the provision of library services. He said, in company with Cr. O'Brien, he attended the annual general meeting held at Bogan on 22 September 2009 where it was raised that member councils of the library service may wish to submit to the Shires Association Conference – through "C" Division – that a sustainable funding model be developed applicable to public libraries.

Mr. Warren said the Library Cooperative had a surplus from operations of \$491.11 for the 2008/2009 financial year and that contribution for member councils was set at \$37,000 (ex GST) for the 2010/2011 financial year.

8094 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council:

- (1) note the information pertaining to the North Western Library Cooperative;
- (2) resolve to include, as an item for consideration by "C" Division that a sustainable funding model be developed for public library funding by the State Government.

13.0 REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

8095 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Canham that the report by the Director of Engineering Services be received and dealt with.

13.1 COONAMBLE LEVEE REMEDIATION

The Director of Engineering Services provided a comprehensive report giving background details of the existing levee, which was constructed by Council in 1976 and has a total length of approximately 7km. Council noted that midway through 2004, the SES commissioned a flood gradient sensitivity modeling study for the Coonamble area. The Director stated the purpose of this study was to hydraulically model various flood scenarios and assess the adequacy of the levee in terms of crest height. He said that until recent months, the results of this study were not available.

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Mr. Gamage said that in 2006 a structural audit of the levee was undertaken with the preliminary and final reports delivering a comprehensive geotechnical assessment of the condition of the levee. He said the reports prioritised sections of the levee for remediation based on the findings, with two sections in particular in poor to very poor condition due to inadequate foundations.

The Director said that in July 2007 Council allocated \$500,000 for flood mitigation and levee remediation to undertake design work on the two high priority sections. He advised that in May this year, Council received approval for a \$90,000 levee design remediation project through the Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme (NDMP) on a 1:1:1 basis (Council: State: Federal). He said the draft flood study was then made available to Council in July 2009.

Council noted the hydraulic modeling predicted that some sections of the levee, extending from the Castlereagh Highway towards King St. and adjacent to Warrena Creek, afford inadequate protection for flood events associated with rainfall events with a 50yr ARI and 100yr ARI (average recurrence interval). Mr. Gamage said Council was further granted \$65,000 on a 1:6 basis (Council: State) from the State Floodplain Management Program (SFMP). He pointed out this funding arrangement is for already approved and ongoing projects and must be reapplied for every year to ensure continuity (otherwise the "ongoing" status lapses). The 1:6 funding ratio recognises exceptional circumstances.

The Director stated that the figures provided to Council in September for the Concept Designs (\$107,000) and Detailed Design (\$119,000) do not include the provision of an environmental impact assessment (EIA). He said an EIA would be required following the concept design stage but prior to commencement of the detailed design work - an estimate for an EIA could range up to \$60,000 depending on the level of assessment needed.

The Director informed the meeting that at a meeting with a DECCW officer recently Council staff was informed that proceeding with the concept design at least would be a precursor to further funding applications being supported.

8096 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O'Brien that Council engage Public Works to carry out concept designs for the entire levee system and seek future grant funding for an EIA and detailed design works.

13.2 PROGRESS REPORT

The Director gave Council a brief outline of works underway and those completed since last meeting, including:

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- Roads – State Highway, Regional and Local
- Swimming pools
- Tully Park Bore
- Asset Management forum – Data entry nearing completion; problems still being experienced with operation of Conquest program and a representative of the company has been requested to address these problems.
- Water Treatment Plant – Infinity proposal not approved by the Office of Water, however no formal response has been received to Council's letter at this stage. Another company – Chatoyer – indicated it would be able to provide three separate water treatment units for around \$2m. Senior Officers of the Office of water indicated some grant funding may be available for a plant that would provide water complying with Australian Drinking Water Standards

8096 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and Schieb that further information be sought from Chatoyer subject to formal written rejection to the Infinity system is received from the Office of Water.

- Roadworks – Harvest Period

8097 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Schieb that the RTA be requested to postpone roadworks during the harvest period and that the General Manager telephone the Authority to discuss this request.

17.0 REPORT BY SALEYARDS MANAGER

8098 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that the Saleyard Manager's Report for the month of September, 2009 be adopted.

18.0 REPORTS BY CONTRACT RANGER

The Contract Ranger submitted two reports, one for the month of August 2009, the other covering activities during September, 2009.

8099 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and O'Brien that the Contract Ranger's reports for the months of August and September 2009 be adopted.

16.0 REPORT BY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Mayor referred to a conflict of interest involving the Tourism Development Manager following his election as President of the Twoeighttwoeight Committee. Cr. Horan said he would be addressing this matter today with Mr. Baldwin.

At this juncture, 4.07 p.m., Council's TDM was at the meeting to present his report.

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Mr. Baldwin went through his report, giving further information on some matters listed in his report, including:

- Website – advised that traffic from Council’s current website will be redirected to new site from next week.
- Warrumbungle Cluster – good response to TV advertising campaign in conjunction with three other councils.
- Campbelltown City Council – art exhibition – 2 works are by local high school students. Trying to get students to visit Campbelltown during the exhibition.

8100 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O’Brien and Cullen that two representatives from Council attend the Campbelltown City Council Art Exhibition.

8101 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O’Brien and Canham that the report by the Tourism Development Manager be adopted.

16.1 PRIMITIVE CAMP GROUND – QUAMBONE

The Tourism Development Manager referred to the increase in motor home traffic to Quambone and pointed out that the report he submitted was to advise Council of a proposed site for the primitive camping ground for self contained travellers to Quambone. Mr. Baldwin said that the report does not commit Council to any funding, but will allow investigations to move to the next stage, which will include costings.

8102 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Karanouh and O’Brien that Council receive and note the report on the establishment of primitive camping grounds at Quambone, approve the proposal in principle and request Quambone Resources Committee or Quambone Business & Tourism Services to submit a development application/formal request for same.

TDM INVOLVEMENT WITH TWOEIGHTTWOEIGHT

The Mayor raised the issue of a perceived conflict with the TDM in his position with Council and President of the Twoeighttwoeight Committee. Cr Horan referred to the letter issued by the General Manager instructing the TDM to not deal with any matter relative to Twoeighttwoeight – Mr. Baldwin informed Council that he has already taken action instructed by the General Manager. The TDM said the only reason he took the position was that no-one else was available at the time. Mr. Baldwin said at the first opportunity he will step down from the presidency.

At this juncture, 4.20 p.m., Mr. Baldwin left the meeting.

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CLOSED SESSION

8103 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Karanouh that Council resolve into Closed Session in accordance with Section 10A of the Local Government Act 1993, *section 2(a) "personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors); and section 2(c) "information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business"*

8104 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Cullen and Karanouh that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

RESUME OPEN MEETING

8105 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. O'Brien and Karanouh that Council resume Open Meeting.

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CLOSED SESSION

8106 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs. Canham and O'Brien that Council adopt the recommendations of Closed Session, being Recommendation Nos. 1 to 4, as follows:

19.1 EMPLOYMENT POSITION – MANAGER – ROADS

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that Council:

- (1) Offer Ms Jillian Kilby the position of Assistant Manager – Roads for a trial period up to the resignation date of the current Manager.
- (2) Upon receipt of the current Manager's resignation, advertise the position of Manager – Roads.
- (3) Increase the engineering salaries vote by \$20,000 and decrease the 2009/2010 roads program vote by the same amount.
- (4) Instruct the Director of Corporate Services to allocate funding from the roads reserve to the roads program to the value of \$20,000

19.2 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that Council alter the Organisational Structure by deleting the temporary plant mechanic, inserting a third permanent position and advertising internally for a qualified plant mechanic.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that a letter be sent to Peter Foodey and John Drummond wishing them well in their current difficult times.

20.1 PRINTER/PHOTOCOPIER REPLACEMENT

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that Council enter into an agreement with Inland Technology (Canon) based on the costs per copy for both black and colour (as stated in the report) and that the term of the agreement be sixty (60) months.

21.1 NETWASTE TENDER 145/534/989/3 – TENDER FOR NETWASTE REGIONAL HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTION

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS that the General Manager and the Director peruse details of this tender prior to making a decision.

General Business:

Cr Karanouh:

- Otto bins being broken by Contractor
- Further repairs needed to garden area adjacent to AJF Brien & Sons.

Cr Schieb:

- Referred to letter from Mrs Lyons regarding rural addressing – Mayor said that he had not received the original letter.
- Rural addressing – causing concern to rural residents. GM informed the meeting that it is out of Council's control at the present time – Council has completed its part of the project and when approved by the Department of Lands, instructions will be issued to emergency services. Advertisements will be placed locally when approved by Department.
- Referred to a white Shire vehicle (with 3 – 4 occupants) being driven away from Coonamble on Saturday 26 September 2009 at 6.32 a.m.
- Mentioned various grants available – the GM stated that this information is sent through the web to organizations, etc.
- Council vehicle used by Mayor – Cr Horan advised he pays a lease for private use of the vehicle.

Cr O'Brien:

- Need for a truck wash in Gulargambone
- Evelyn Simpson Drive – vicinity of Redington residence – big pothole
- Armitree Street – bad section when accessing Highway – could damage tyres
- Recycling at Walgett – was informed that a private contractor is recycling and making a profit – asked that the Director of Engineering Services make enquiries.

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Cr Canham:

- Request for lawns and trees at Aerodrome to be tidied.
- Pavement in Dubbo Street (in front of Pre School) badly cut up – needs repair.

Cr Schieb:

- Toilets at Showground too dirty for Pony Club to use. Council noted that the Greyhound Club should have cleaned the toilets following its recent carnival.

Mayor:

- Laneway from Bimble Street through to Dubbo Street – application by Smith to purchase part – response has not been sent. The GM said the matter would be followed up.
- Ginty Estate – asked for a report to Council on the development of the blocks fronting Yarran Street.

Director of Engineering Services:

- Asked whether any councillor wishes to go on the roads inspection – Cr. O'Brien said she would like to go. The Director said he will follow up.

Cr Schieb:

- Director of Engineering Services was requested to check whether the electric fence around the airstrip is turned on.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 5.11p.m.

These Pages (Page 1/4297 to 35/4331) were confirmed on the day
of2009 and are a full and accurate record of proceedings of the
ordinary meeting of Coonamble Shire Council held on 14 October 2009.

MAYOR