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LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES

At the time of preparation of the business paper no apologies have been received.

ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

Councils Code of Meeting Practice permits Councillors to attend and participate in meetings of the council with the approval of the council or relevant committee.

Clauses 5.19 - 5.30 of the Code of Meeting Practice provides the parameters for eligibility and requirements for remote attendance.

WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Attendees of this meeting are reminded that:

- a) The meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on Council's website, and
- b) Persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS

Councillors are reminded of the oath or affirmation of office they have taken under section 233A of the Act.

The governing body of a county council is responsible for managing the affairs of the county council. Each Councillor as a member of the governing body has a responsibility to make considered and well-informed decisions to ensure that the exercise of the functions of Goldenfields Water are performed to benefit the whole of the area of operations of Goldenfields Water.

In addition Councillors are reminded of their obligations under council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to their people both past and present and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Declaration of Interest

Councillors and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their pecuniary interest in any matters listed before them.

Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

DECLARATION OF NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Declaration of non Pecuniary Interest

Councillors and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them.

In considering your interest you are reminded to include non-pecuniary and conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you.

Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, in the opinion of the General Manager the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act and should be dealt with in part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

It is recommended that Council move into CONFIDENTIAL SESSION.

OURA WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES – DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF PUMP STATION, DOSING BUILDING AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES TENDER – 01/2024

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

- a) Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:
(i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it*

EXITING CONFIDENTIAL

There being no further confidential items it is recommended that Council revert back to Open Session and that the resolutions made in Confidential Session be made public.

The General Manager is to read out any resolutions made in Confidential Session.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – AUGUST 2024

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT CHAIR AND INDEPENDENT MEMBER

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

BACKGROUND

Goldenfields Water County Council transition towards compliance with the new Regulations and Guidelines for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees (ARICs) issued by the Office of Local Government necessitates the appointment of an independent chair and two independent members.

REPORT

As previously reported to Council, amendments inserted into the Local Government Act in recent years require councils to appoint an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC). The OLG has issued Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Councils in NSW to guide the operations of ARICs and to require councils to have a risk management framework and internal audit function to support and inform their operations. Councils must comply with the Guidelines from 1 July 2024.

In order to transition towards compliance with the new Guidelines Council, at its meeting held on 14 August 2024 resolved as follows:

Expressions of interest were invited from persons who meet the prequalification criteria contained in the OLG Guidelines, to act as the Chair of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and Independent membership.

A total of 14 EOIs were received with three short listed for interview. The interviews were scheduled to be conducted by a panel of three including the Acting General Manager, Corporate Services Manager and Human Resources Coordinator. It is recommended that Mr Warren Rushby be appointed as the Independent Chair of the Goldenfields Water County Council ARIC for a maximum two year term. Lucy Roberts and Matthew Suter as Independent members for a period of two years.

Under the OLG Guidelines, Council also has the option of appointing one non-voting councillor member to the ARIC who meets the eligibility criteria for councillor members of committees in addition to the independent chair and two independent members. The Chair cannot be appointed as a councillor member of a council's ARIC.

Recommendation: That:

- 1) Warren Rushby be appointed Independent Chair of the Goldenfields Water County Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) for a two year term.
- 2) Lucy Roberts and Matthew Suter be appointed independent members of the Goldenfields Water County Council ARIC for a term of two years.
- 3) Council appoint a Councillor as a non-voting member of the ARIC at the first meeting of the newly elected Council following the forthcoming Local Government Elections.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – AUGUST 2024

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

NEXT MEETING

It is recommended that the board resolve to hold the next ordinary meeting of Council on Thursday 5 September at 10.30am

CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business requiring the attention of Council the meeting may be declared closed.